

Handbook

Preface

All performing ensembles are essentially group endeavors. They achieve whatever musical successes they can by the collective efforts of their members. As such, no performing ensemble, professional or scholastic, voluntary or paid, can successfully achieve its goals without a complete commitment to excellence from each member. This handbook is designed to help identify the standards of excellence to which we collectively aspire.

Because of the performance nature of music and the team effort required to perform with an instrumental ensemble, **it is imperative that students and their families realize that band is a commitment of time, money, energy and emotion.** Each and every member of the ensemble is crucial to the success of the overall ensemble.

General Disclaimer

As you read this handbook, you may see some rules, which seem to be more restrictive than those of the school at large. These rules reflect the collective nature of a performing ensemble. Without everyone present or in proper attire, the whole group suffers accordingly. These guidelines have been developed with the best interests of the whole group in mind.

Purpose

The purpose of the band program reflects that of the entire community, who base their organization, activities and changes on fundamental beliefs concerning human persons, their values, their relationships to each other and to the culture in which they live. To reflect these basic values, an atmosphere is created in which the students might experience the human value in responsible freedom and initiative, active concern for others and commitment to purpose.

The purpose of the band program is twofold: to train young musicians/performers and to form young men and women. In every aspect of its work, the band is guided by a commitment to professional standards. Its atmosphere challenges students to realize their fullest potential and to provide musical and intellectual stimulation to foster their musical and human growth. The band attempts to do this through emphasis on musicianship and pride of accomplishment, followed closely by citizenship, tradition, morale, spirit and loyalty. Excellence is achieved through the proper use of time, maintaining academic standards, and challenging every individual to his/her fullest potential.

A Band Philosophy

The most common problem, especially for young band members working with their peers, is gaining the respect and rapport needed to establish a healthy working relationship with each other. Respect cannot be demanded or forced; it must be earned!! An outstanding Band Member must possess skills and knowledge related to their contribution as a performer. In addition, an effective Band Member must be able to apply and communicate this information to others in a productive manner. All Band Members should view themselves as **EQUALS**, regardless of their age or position in the Music Program.

People who are admired by others have many traits considered desirable. There is no question that we all value people who are responsible, friendly, patient, positive, organized, sincere, talented, enthusiastic, consistent, and competent. We must become the kind of person that others admire. **In all cases, this means that self-improvement is necessary.** Objectively analyze your strengths and weaknesses and then work diligently to strengthen your weaknesses, while maintaining your strengths.

We cannot motivate people! People motivate themselves, usually resulting from a positive or a negative experience. Great discipline and motivation is a by-product of success. Therefore, as a Band Program, our goal is to discover ways to experience success by working hard with a positive attitude.

SYSTEM + SPIRIT = SUCCESS

The two most important attributes of a successful Band Program are
System and Spirit.

System is a way of doing things. It represents the total structure of the Band Program,
such as organization, procedures, activities, philosophies, teaching models, marching style, playing style, policies, etc.

Spirit represents how individual members react to the System.
It includes practice habits, attitudes, mental discipline, commitment, responsibility, dependability, hard work, etc.

Success is the result of good System and Spirit and produces its own by-products such as pride, enthusiasm, loyalty,
discipline, and dedication.

Success Breeds Success! Failure Breeds Failure!
Great organizations know and respect this!

S.U.D.A.

Responsibility

The Sylacauga Band Member has a responsibility to herself or himself!

Members of the band have been given the responsibility to be the best musicians they can with the talent that they have been given. To do so, they should avail themselves of the opportunities given to them.

The Sylacauga Band Member has a responsibility to the school!

The school provides the necessary facilities, equipment and staff for our band. The band member must be willing to make sacrifices to provide the best possible performances for the school, community and citizens of our area. There are times that this may require sacrifices on the part of the student and his/her family with regard to holidays and vacation planning to bring the gift of music to others.

The Sylacauga Band Member has a responsibility to make music as an art form!

The performing arts are a vital part of a student's education and an important part of the human condition. Humankind expresses itself through music, art, drama, and literature. The bands have a responsibility to perform the music they play in the best possible manner, both as an expression of the composer's creation and as a personal expression of each musician's own humanism.

The Sylacauga Band Member has a responsibility to others!

Any group effort requires that each person do his/her part. In a band, each musician is an integral part of the total sound/look of the group. Each band member must be the best and know that he/she is contributing to the Music Program. In accomplishing this, it is necessary that we learn to get along with others. This can be a difficult task, with differences in personalities, age, and experience. It is the responsibility of each band member to respect the rights, gifts, and abilities of others. The music program is a family and as such, we care for each other, aid those who need help, and support each other in all our endeavors.

Program Structure

Band is a full year course consisting of two distinct semesters or "seasons". This Fall semester is primarily considered the marching season while the Spring semester is considered the concert season. The following is a brief description of the various groups that are associated with the Sylacauga Band Program.

Marching Band

The marching band is made up of several components: horn line, drum line (battery), drum major, front ensemble (pit), color guard, dance line, and majorettes. The marching band performs at pep rallies, all football games, various marching contests, and community/regional/national parades. The marching band rehearses from 3:30-5:30 PM on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday (Friday if there is not a game and rehearsal is called) during marching season. Additional rehearsals may be called before competitions or major performances.

Membership Requirements For Each Section

Color Guard - Membership is open to any current or incoming 9th-12th grade student. Membership is gained through tryouts in the spring. There are no scheduling conflicts allowed.

Majorettes - Membership is open to any current or incoming 9th-12th grade student. Membership is gained through tryouts in the spring. There are no scheduling conflicts allowed.

Drum Major - Membership is open to any person that has participated for at least two years in both the marching and concert band. Tryouts will be held in the spring after a multi-day camp. The person(s) chosen has to agree to go to an approved drum major leadership camp in the summer at his or her own expense.

Student Leadership - Membership is open to current band students that have participated in marching band (some positions require participation in concert band as well) through an application and audition process.

Concert Band

The Concert Band is the premier concert performing organization. This ensemble performs upper level high school music as determined by the classifications set forth by the Alabama Bandmasters Association. This ensemble will meet daily during the school day with occasional after school practices as needed. There are no scheduling conflicts allowed. Students are highly encouraged to audition for Honor, District, and All-State Bands in addition to Solo & Ensemble. Private lessons are highly encouraged. The Concert Band will perform a Fall Concert and Spring Concert in addition to State Music Performance Assessment-MPA (Performances are subject to change).

Additional ensembles that may perform include **jazz band, basketball pep band, and smaller ensembles.** (These additional ensembles will be determined by the amount of student interest and commitment to these groups. These ensembles are encouraged, but for them to be successful every student in the group must be willing to make the extra time for practices and performances these ensembles)

Attendance

The Marching band exists both within and outside the normal school hours. In order to be a member, you are expected to arrange your personal life to accommodate attendance at ALL rehearsals (the entire rehearsal!) and performances.

Marching band is a collective endeavor; therefore, we need every one to be present at all rehearsals and performances. Unlike other classes in which one's presence affects only themselves, attendance profoundly affects the entire musical ensemble. For this reason **ATTENDANCE AT ALL REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES IS MANDATORY.** The members and staff of the band take this requirement seriously. (This includes any trips besides an optional Spring Trip that is announced at the beginning of the year. If there is an impromptu trip--that is not the optional Spring Trip--the trip is required!)

Our policy is as follows:

- Each member will receive 1 unexcused absence for the year that will not effect his/her participation, but that member will have to make up any consequences assigned to the entire band or his/her section while absent.
- An unexcused absence may result in performing under performance or practice discipline, removal from parts of the show, or dismissal from the marching band.
- An excused absence (with the exception of death/emergency) must be approved prior to absence by director.
- Excessive excused absences (3 or more) may result in dismissal from the marching band.
- In all circumstances, the director's decision is final.

The following guidelines have been developed to ensure maximum participation at ALL rehearsals and performances:

Scheduled Rehearsals

- A condition of membership in the Sylacauga Band Program is the ability to attend all rehearsals and performances. Students who accept an offer of membership in these ensembles will be expected to arrange their personal lives to accommodate attendance at all rehearsals and performances.
- A student is excused from a scheduled regular rehearsal only if he/she is absent from school.

- From time to time, other classes hold field trips, retreats, or other events. As we mutually support each other in all learning experiences, students will be excused from band for these events, with the understanding that all missed assignments will be made up, and policy regarding absences/tardiness is followed. It is further understood that every effort be made to schedule around rehearsals, as the rehearsal schedule is available at the beginning of the school year.

Extra Rehearsals

- From time to time, the band may schedule extra rehearsals to take place outside of the regular band schedule. Most often, these rehearsals are "dress rehearsals" which are vitally important final brush-up rehearsals before public performances. Students are expected to attend **ALL** extra rehearsals. Extra rehearsal will not be planned last minute and usually there will be 2 weeks notice, however sometimes a circumstance may come up where we have to schedule a last minute rehearsal. In this circumstance, I will do my best to ensure that the rehearsal is scheduled as soon as I know we must schedule an extra rehearsal. This will ensure that students and families can make the appropriate arrangements for the student to attend the rehearsal.
- A student is excused from an extra rehearsal only in the instances acceptable under the guidelines of the scheduled rehearsals.
- Most part-time jobs will accommodate shift changes/trading with enough advance notice. We expect that with this advance notice, students will be able to adjust their job schedule accordingly with their employer.

Medical Conflicts

- A student is excused from a scheduled regular rehearsal only if he/she will be absent from school or is sent home from school by the nurse. Chronic sickness will necessitate a doctor's note.
- Medical appointments are **NOT** excused absences, since these may be scheduled at other times. You may schedule appointments on Wednesday during the fall.

Homework Conflicts

Academic success is a priority within the band program. As an educator, I believe that school work should be your number one priority. This may require sacrifices on the student's behalf, including managing their free time, balancing their personal life, and limiting time with friends.

Transportation Conflicts

Lack of transportation is not an excuse to be absent from a rehearsal or performance. Let your captian, drum major, and—most importantly—director know so transportation may be setup to help accommodate your travel needs.

Work Conflicts

Many students hold part-time jobs. These are excellent ways to build responsibility, good work ethic, and an income. We applaud the efforts of these hard-working students. At the same time, band can supply many of the same character building experiences, but not the income. Therefore, since many part-time employment situations are flexible while a band rehearsal schedule is not, we hope that students will see the necessity of rescheduling or trading shifts to accommodate those occurrences when a rehearsal or performance conflicts with a work schedule. Students whose employment situation does not allow them to attend these rehearsals and performances must make a difficult decision. Life is full of such choices: it is impossible to do everything, as well as be in two places at once. Students must weigh the benefits of each and make a commitment to one or the other.

School Athletic or Activity Conflicts

The Sylacauga Band Program often attracts those students with all around talent: Intellectual, musical, and athletic. Many of our students participate on athletic teams. We applaud their hard work and dedication to these teams. These programs help build discipline, teamwork, camaraderie, and many other beneficial life attributes. However, we feel that the Sylacauga Band Program offers many of the same benefits. Neither the Sylacauga Band Program, nor a Sylacauga athletic team can function at its best without full commitment from the student. But, if the student is willing to spend the extra time and extra work required to participate in both groups/teams, then we will work with the student to resolve the conflicts. Schedules for the band and other programs are posted in advance, so the student can determine if there are any conflicts that might prevent them from attending practices, games or performances. If a student joins another program, he/she should inform the directors/coaches of their plans. Remember, just because you are participating on another program, it does not release you from your responsibilities of the band.

Other Activities Outside of School

Involvement in other activities (i.e. Church Choir, Youth Group, Rec. Sports, etc.) is a wholesome experience for band members. However, by making a commitment to the band, the student agrees to meet his or her obligations to the Sylacauga Band Program. Students should be careful not to over commit themselves. Conflicts created outside of school create a situation to be resolved between the band director and the student.

**** The only excused absences from rehearsals and performances besides pre-approved absences are severe personal illness with doctor's excuse, death in the immediate family, or extraordinary circumstances. Since none of these circumstances can be foreseen, it is rare that a student will know in advance about an excusable absence. Just like school's policy, a note/email/call from a parent is required after the incident occurs to notify the director of a student's absence. Therefore, the following procedures should be followed to excuse these absences:**

Daily Rehearsals

During the school day, band is a class and attendance will be taken at all rehearsals. Students who are absent without an excuse will be reported to the appropriate administrator.

Exceptional Circumstances

On extremely rare occasions, a planned absence may be excusable due to a situation other than the stated reasons. Such absences will be excused at the discretion of the Band Director. **ADVANCE** written request for the absence with a parent or legal guardian's signature is required.

Although we have tried to cover all aspects of attendance, some students or parents may have an exceptional circumstance. All requests for an excused absence are required in writing. However, to better explain their circumstances, families may wish to phone first and then follow up with a written or email request. I am always happy to discuss your situation at any time after band rehearsals/performances (please not during a rehearsal or performance).

Written vs. Verbal Communication

Keeping track of 100+ students and their attendance status is an incredible task, and we ask students and families to be aware of this. Because of its permanence, email communication is the only officially acceptable mode for communicating absence, tardiness, and other situations to the director.

Tardiness

The school strives to prepare its students for the future. One characteristic of mature adults is that of promptness. All employers require this of their workers; promptness is also a courtesy in social situations. It demonstrates good planning, constructive use of time, and a positive attitude. We do a disservice to our students by permitting them to be tardy. Tardiness in class is disruptive, both to the late student and to the class. In an ensemble situation, it is disastrous. The following guidelines will assist students in organizing their schedules to be on time for band rehearsal:

- The only excused tardiness to rehearsals or performances are those caused by a prearranged conflict of academics or athletics. These require a note signed by the teacher or coach involved.
- Any student arriving late to a rehearsal/performance is subject to disciplinary action.
- Early dismissal from rehearsals or performances is just as disruptive as late arrivals and will also be subject to disciplinary action.

****We are attempting to establish a standard of excellence that rivals the finest programs in the state. I believe that we have the resources, talent, support, and instruction to become one of these top band programs.**

Every time a member misses an entire rehearsal or even part of one, it hurts the entire group!!

Rehearsal Guidelines

- Be seated with instrument, music, pencil, and supplies at the announced times.
- Show good rehearsal etiquette by being a good team player.
- Study your part quietly while the director works with another section.
- Remain on task at all times.
- **Do not talk or interrupt the focus of a rehearsal.**
- **Absolutely NO CELL PHONES during rehearsals!** When an official break has been given, cell phones may be used.
- Maintain proper posture at all times. This is important for all players.
- Raise your hand and ask questions if you need more individual help.
- **Leave your instrument cases in your locker or assigned area during rehearsals.**
- **Leave your books and backpacks either in your locker or along the wall.**
- Do not leave purses or other valuables unlocked in the band room.
- All instruments remain in cases with latches closed inside a locker or assigned area when not in use.
- Disorderly behavior and abusive language will not be tolerated.
- Please be considerate of the director's requests for assistance and/or performance of little tasks around the band room.
- Do not leave rehearsal without permission from the director.
- Remember - Great Bands Look Great!

• Grading

Grading in band is based upon participation, attitude, and playing tests. Grades for band students are usually higher than the norm. This is understandable, since we have the "cream-of-the-crop" of the student body in the band program. Students are in our program because they want to be, not because they have to be. Band students receive a grade of "100" during the year split into Attendance (25%), Music/Checks (25%), and Performance (50%). Students must pass off daily warm ups, school songs, the Star Spangled Banner, and show music by memory as part of their grade in the fall. Showing up prepared with all needed supplies and participating is very important. In order for every student to be successful and maintain a high grade, attendance at all events, including sectionals, and knowing your music is mandatory. Band grades are not given; they are earned. If you show up prepared, know your music, have a good attitude, then you will be successful.

Exact components of daily work and test work will be given in the course syllabus once school starts. However, if you skip a performance, your grade will be effected and you will be removed from part of the show or possible from the group.

Use of Band Room Facilities

Students are welcome to use the band room practice rooms for practice either before or after school. Sometimes, however, the number of available places is limited, since the room might be in use. Due to the many thousands of dollars worth of musical instruments that are in the band room, we do ask that **ONLY** band students come into the band room during the school day and before or after school. **Students must ask their friends who are not in the band to wait for them either in the foyer or outside.** The band room is a safe haven for us. We stress to all band students to be responsible and keep their equipment PUT UP in their cubbies or assigned areas at all times. Many times "clean up" duty is assigned to those untidy housekeepers to help develop orderly skills. **FOOD OR DRINKS** are allowed in the band room at the beginning of each year...if a director has to clean up food or drinks it will no longer be allowed in the band room without the director's permission. We spend most of our day in the band room and would ask that everyone treat it with respect and do his or her part to keep it clean. If you see trash on the floor, please pick it up. **GUM MUST BE DISPOSED OF BEFORE ENTERING THE BAND ROOM!**

Inventory

School-Owned Instruments

The school provides select musical instruments for the double reed, low woodwind sections, brass, and percussion. These instruments are expensive and require a check out form for each semester. If a school-owned instrument is damaged, the repairs are the financial responsibility of the assigned student. We may charge a rental fee of \$25-\$35/month (depending on the instrument) for the regular up-keeping of the instrument

These instruments are quite costly (example: concert Tuba - \$5,000) and are not normally owned by individuals. Any damage or normal adjustment during the year is the responsibility of the band student who has signed for the instrument. We expect the instrument to be returned in the same condition as when issued. Dings, dents, and other damage will be repaired at the student's expense. Mouthpieces and neck straps are required for all applicable instruments and it is the responsibility of the student to provide these. If the instrument is stolen while checked out to a student, it is the student's responsibility to replace the instrument. Many parents carry an insurance rider to cover a checked-out school musical instrument.

Personal Instruments

Personally owned instruments are the responsibility of the individual student. These instruments must meet the standards of the band program. Instruments that do not work, are untunable, or are inferior quality are not acceptable. Our performance depends on the quality of sound of our ensembles. Instrument maintenance and upkeep is the responsibility of the individual student. You must have all supplies for your instrument at all times. This includes reeds, valve oil, cleaning supplies, mouthpieces, etc.

Band Uniforms

It is a privilege to wear the band uniform. **Make sure you have all parts of the uniform at each performance.** If your appearance does not meet the high standard required in the band, you are subject to being removed from a performance or not allowed to travel with the band. If your uniform is damaged, you must have it repaired or replaced at your expense.

2018 Approximate Replacement Prices from Stanbury Uniforms
Due to the cost of fabric, these prices are subject to change at any time

\$230 Jacket
\$75 Bibber Pants
\$50 Shako (Hat)
\$30 Plume
\$10 Gloves

\$395 TOTAL REPLACEMENT PRICE

The uniform is a symbol of pride and will be worn accordingly. You must wear all of the uniform (minus the shako) or none of the uniform unless given permission from the director. You may not appear in public with the jacket unzipped, unbuttoned or the bibber pants improperly worn. Most students choose to wear lightweight shorts with the required band t-shirt underneath their uniform. If a band member is seen wearing the uniform incorrectly at any time, disciplinary measures will be enforced. Band uniforms are not to be worn while eating without permission from the director. The uniform may not have any additions to it unless approved by the band director.

Auxiliary members (majorette, color guard, dance line, drum major) must wear their uniforms at all times and any additions or subtractions from the uniform that are not approved by the director will result in lack of participation and possibly removal from the marching band. We do not wear auxiliary uniforms out in public. After a performance or rehearsal of any type, you must change out of your auxiliary uniform.

Hair, skin, and anything on your body is part of your uniform. No tattoos are not allowed to be visible. Hair must match the entire sections requirements. These decisions will be determined by the band director each year depending on each section in the band.

Here are a few do's and don'ts that will help you and your uniform look great at all times:

- Do remember to wear your band t-shirt, black socks, and marching shoes each time you wear the uniform.
- Do not remove any material from the uniform if alterations are needed.
- Do transport your uniform in a garment bag and your shako in it's shako box at all times. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- Do not store your uniform in the garment bag. This will cause it to mildew and smell bad. This odor never leaves the uniform.
- Do hang your uniform correctly. Pants need to maintain their crease and the shoulders of the jacket need support.

Uniform Accessories

Band students will need to provide the following items:

1. A pair of black (not patent) Marching Shoes. These shoes are available during band camp for purchase if not included in fees.
2. A pair of black socks. These socks are to be over the calf length with elastic tops. The socks are to be solid black. If your socks begin to grey due to washing, buy a new pair.
3. The official marching band t-shirt from the current year.

If you do not have all of the required components of your uniform or if you add to the uniform to express yourself, you will march the performance under performance discipline or you will not march at all and possible removal from the marching band. **IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES, THE DIRECTOR'S DECISION IS FINAL!**

OUR UNIFORM IS PART OF OUR IDENTITY. TREAT IT WITH RESPECT.

Student Conduct

The conduct of each band member should be beyond reproach. By the time a student reaches high school, he/she should know how to show appropriate behavior. The high standards set by the band will be strictly enforced. Poor behavior is a sign of lack of pride and a lack of concern for the band. Members who continually display inappropriate conduct or violate the policies of the school could be removed as a member of the band.

General Off Campus Travel Policy

Students who represent the band on out-of-town trips are expected to maintain very high standards in every respect at all times. They are expected to attend and be on time for all sessions and activities scheduled for them. In the event of overnight trips, they are expected to be in their rooms at the times designated by their sponsors. Each student will be responsible to one or more faculty sponsors who will supervise the activities of the student for the trip. Negligence in attending sessions, in meeting curfew requirements, or in failing to maintain our standards of conduct may make it necessary for the sponsor to send the student home at his/her own expense. Student conduct on school-related trips: Self-discipline is the key element for a pleasant experience for both the sponsor and the student when the student is on a school-related trip. Students who are involved in a serious disciplinary offense on a school-related trip, such as the use, possession of, or being under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol, stealing, fighting, going in the room of a member of the opposite sex, or some other serious offense will face disciplinary action which may include one or more of the following:

- The student will be sent home from the trip at the parents' expense (bus or flight).
- The student will be held liable for damages to property.
- The student may be removed from this school activity as well as other school activities.
- The student may be placed in ISS, Alternative School, or face expulsion.

Students' attire during school activities outside the school day should be in good taste. If there is any question of taste, the director's decision is final. All adults on trips serve as sponsors. Students will be expected to treat them with respect at all times. In the event a parent sponsor gives needed supervision, band students must honor that with utmost respect. Even though you will not always have a band shirt on, people will find out where you are from. You have the opportunity to make a tremendous name for the Sylacauga Band and for yourself. Be courteous and polite at all times. There is no way we can anticipate every possible scenario, so we ask for good judgment. Please use common sense. RULE OF THUMB: If there is any question in your mind as to whether you should do something or not... DON'T DO IT! It is better to be safe than sorry. DO THE RIGHT THING EVEN WHEN NO ONE IS LOOKING!

WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THERE WILL BE NO PROBLEMS. IF WE ANTICIPATED A PROBLEM, WE WOULD NOT TRAVEL.

Athletic Event Policy

Normal school policy dictates that band students ride to, and return from all off-campus performances as a group using transportation provided by the district. On rare occasions, an emergency or conflict with other school-sponsored events students may ride with their parents if they have turned in their student release form (away form). In such a situation of an away game you should present yourself to the director before departure. This protects both the parents and the school. Any other types of releases from a performance must be cleared in advance through the principal a school day before the travel day.

Athletic Events are fun, and we are there to support the team. However, we must maintain a class act at all times. Band members can stand up and YELL and SCREAM in support of the team throughout the game, but should always remain in his/her "spot." It is important to remain alert concerning all of the expensive equipment around you as well as the need to be ready to play at a moment's notice. Only current band students are allowed in the band section. You are only allowed to play your instrument when you are suppose to with the entire band (or when directed to do so by the director/drum major). Students who choose to play at inappropriate times and do not follow rules will be warned once. If further action is needed, the student will be instructed to come to the front of the band and sit with a chaperone and further consequences will be determined by the band director. Water will be provided during the first quarter. The 3rd quarter is your time off. **You must be back in your spot ready to play by the end of the third quarter or you will lose third quarter privileges during the next game (Hint: When the scoreboard reaches 0:00 for the 3rd quarter, we're playing. If you are not prepared and ready to play, you will lose third quarter privileges during the next game). All instrumentalists must have their flip folders at games if flip folders are being used (consequences will be determined by the band director).** Have fun during the games, but represent the school with pride, class, and dignity. We are there to create a winning atmosphere for our team. ****WHEN WE ARE NOT AT HOME, CONCESSIONS MAY NOT BE QUICK AT TIMES AND THE DIRECTOR WILL NOTICE THIS AND ALLOW EXCEPTIONS TO BEING READY BY THE END OF THE 3RD QUARTER****

Fund Raising

Fund Raising is a fact of life. Band is a very expensive activity, and the students deserve the best equipment and outside instruction possible. The main purpose of the band boosters is to provide moral and financial support to all aspects of the band program. The majority of fundraising will be optional, however there will be 1 required fundraiser during the fall where you must sell 10 game-of-skill tickets or pay \$100 which is part of the band fee. Failure to participate or pay the fundraiser fee will result in a one year probation from participating in the marching band (the fundraiser fee will be added to your band fees).

Band Fees

The band assesses a participation fee that will be determined at the first meeting of the year. This fee helps to offset the administrative costs, travel expenses, band camp staff salaries, trainers' expenses, and other behind the scenes costs associated with running a band program. These fees are non-refundable. Refusal to pay these fees will result in a one year probation from participating in the marching band and removal from the remainder of the current year. \$500 total for winds, \$550 total for percussion, \$650-\$700 for auxiliary. \$200 can be worked off by parents/guardians/adults working 6 events. \$100 can be worked off from the game-of-skill tickets mentioned in "Fund Raising." Anything worked off in other fundraisers will go towards a student's band fees. Sign up for working the 6 events will be at the August booster meeting.

Trip Fees

Trip fees can be separate or combined in band fees. If they are combined into one fee, it means the trip is required to participate in the band program, however if the fees are split into two separate fees, the trip will not be mandatory. Optional trip fees will be announced when information for the trip is announced.