

2019-2020
EDITION

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES HANDBOOK

(Revised 4/2/19)

Addendums will be added to the online Handbook on www.yorkcougarbands.com as needed.



212°

Where Excellence is a Way of Life

This handbook is designed to cover all facets of the band program.

YORK COUGAR BANDS- POLICIES AND PROCEDURES HANDBOOK

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GENERAL PROGRAM HANDBOOK

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the York Comprehensive High School Band Program!

It has long been known that students who are involved in school music programs generally rank at the top of their class in most every area of the curriculum. You can be sure that the majority of students taking part in high school bands across America aren't doing it because it's good for them; they're doing it **BECAUSE THEY ENJOY IT!**

What we need is your assistance in helping to make the band program at YCHS a success:

- Get to know us – we offer opportunities throughout the year to meet with you and your parents.
- Become a supporter – Get involved and watch your child perform
- Consider private instruction – Quality private teachers in our area can help make the most of your musical endeavors which in turn raises the musical level of our program as a whole.
- Stay informed – Check your email & regularly visit our Facebook page & online calendar for the most current up-to-date information.

Our band program is an organization that involves the cooperative efforts of many people (students, directors, band staff, parents, and administration) working toward common goals. Governing policies are necessary for any group, regardless of size, because they provide direction, help maintain discipline, and insure the welfare of each individual member.

Tremendous amounts of administrative time are required to make such an organization run smoothly to the benefit of all. Hopefully this handbook will aid in the administrative duties of the Band Directors and allow more time directed toward the teaching of music skills. This handbook outlines the limitations and responsibilities of our membership. It is an important source of information for both parents and students.

We truly believe that you and your student have chosen to become involved with one of the most worthwhile organizations in public school education...a high school band program. Band gives us discipline in all aspects of our life. Band gives us courage and respect.

Again, we look forward to another year – full of excitement and new experiences!

Douglas W. Brooks & Laura C. Brooks

YCHS BAND GOALS

Every respectable organization must have high yet realistic goals that they can achieve with cooperation and hard work.

1. We will commit to doing our best in every practice and performance. Doing anything halfway is not worth the effort.
2. We will raise the level of comprehensive musicianship throughout the band program.
3. We will all strive to entertain our audiences and affect them with our energy, intensity, and enthusiasm.
4. We will attempt to bring home top honors at all contests. This, however, is not our primary goal and indeed will not always happen.
5. We will be involved in our community and peer group through service and participation.
6. We will increase parent and community support.

These are REALISTIC and OBTAINABLE goals. It will take the efforts of every member, along with dedication, hard work, a love for music, and excellence, to be successful.

BAND PROGRAM COURSE OFFERINGS

*Band/Guard is a year-long commitment. Students must sign up for Marching Band 1st semester, & Concert Band 2nd semester/Color Guard 1st semester & Winter Guard 2nd Semester (Jazz Band does not take the place of any other course for year-round status).

*All placements into performance classes will be determined via audition and/or recommendation based on progress data.

Marching Band/Drum Line/Front Ensemble - 1 credit (1st semester)-Spring orientation/audition, many performance opportunities, attendance at all rehearsals and performances is required. Honors credit is available for those recommended for Honors Credit.

Wind Ensemble 1 credit (2nd semester)-Advanced-Honors level concert band class, primarily for upperclassmen/advanced students, many performance opportunities, **Honors Credit**.

Symphonic Band 1 credit (2nd semester)-Intermediate concert band class, primarily for underclassmen, several performance opportunities, focus is skill building.

Fall Cougarettes 1 credit (1st semester) – Spring orientation/audition, many performance opportunities, attendance at all rehearsals and performances is required.

Winter Cougarettes 1 credit (2nd semester) – Audition, many performance opportunities, attendance at all rehearsals/performances is required.

<u>Wind Ensemble Track</u>	<u>Symphonic Band Track</u>	<u>Cougarettes Track</u>
Marching Band 1 credit (1 st sem.)	Marching Band 1 credit (1 st sem)	Fall Cougarettes 1 credit (1 st sem.)
Wind Ensemble 1 credit (2 nd sem.)	Symphonic Band 1 credit (2 nd sem.)	Winter Cougarettes 1 credit (2 nd sem.)

Jazz Band 1 credit (5th block before/"Late Bird" November–May)-Advanced level class, primarily 10th–12th grades (9th grade by audition/invitation/recommendation only) **Honors Credit**

FOUR-YEAR PLAN .

4 YEAR COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS	
English	4 units
Mathematics	4 units (1 unit possible to complete in 8 th grade)
Science	3 units
US History	1 unit
Government	½ unit
Economics	½ unit
Social Studies Elective	1 unit
PE/JROTC	1 unit
Computer Science	1 unit (possible to complete in 8 th grade)
Foreign Language	2 units (both must be same language)
>>>>>Fine Arts	1 unit

FOUR YEAR PLAN TO INCLUDE FOUR YEARS OF BAND or COUGARETTES	
9 TH GRADE	10 TH GRADE
English (1)	English (1)
Math (1)	Math (1)
Science (1)	Science (1)
Social Studies (1)	Social Studies (1)
PE/JROTC (1) **not needed in 1 st Sem Band/Cougarettes is complete	Foreign Language (1)
Computer Science (1)	Marching Band/Concert Band or Color Guard/Winter Guard(2)
Marching Band/Concert Band or Color Guard/Winter Guard(2)	ELECTIVES (1)
11 TH GRADE	12 TH GRADE
English (1)	English (1)
Math (1)	Math (1)
Science (1)	Gov/Econ (1)
Social Studies (1)	Foreign Language (1)
Foreign Language (1)	Marching Band/Concert Band or Color Guard/Winter Guard(2)
Marching Band/Concert Band or Color Guard/Winter Guard(2)	ELECTIVES (2)
ELECTIVES (1)	

CAREER PLANNING

Music study FITS into ANY career, IGP, or cluster.

Music study develops skills that are necessary in the workplace. It focuses on “doing,” as opposed to observing, and teaches students how to perform their task, literally, anywhere in the world. Employers are looking for multi-dimensional workers with these sort of flexible and supple intellects that music education helps to create as described above. In the music classroom, students can also learn to better communicate and cooperate with one another. Music performance teaches people to conquer fear and to take risks. A little anxiety is a good thing, and something that will occur often in life. Dealing with it early and often makes it less of a problem later. Risk-taking is essential if a child is to fully develop his or her potential. Music study enhances teamwork skills and discipline.

ELIGIBILITY

- Each candidate must complete an evaluation/recommendation/audition before entering the program.
- Students must be on track for graduation.
- Student must not have a history of school discipline referrals.
- Current students must improve from year to year to be considered for the following year's enrollment.
- Select 8th grade students may participate in the Marching Band Season by invitation only.
- **Per YCHS Administration, students MAY NOT carry over outstanding fees from one year to another. Therefore, any previous outstanding fees MUST be paid in full in order to retain membership for the next year.**

ENSEMBLES/GROUPS

The YCHS Band Program provides many opportunities for our students throughout the year!

Marching Band(MB)/Fall Cougarettes(CG)....Comprised of the total band program, competitive marching/performing group

Wind Ensemble.....Advanced/Honors level concert band group

Symphonic Band.....Intermediate level concert band group

Jazz Band.....Advanced/Honors level jazz group

Winter Cougarettes/Winter Guard(WG) Competitive dance/equipment team(s)

Percussion Ensemble.....Competitive concert percussion group(s)

CALENDAR OVERVIEW

The band calendar can be divided into 2 major "seasons":

- **Marching Season:** Late July - October = marching band events, parades
- **Concert Season:** November - May = concert preparations, Region Band, CPA, Solo & Ensemble, fall marching band preparations
- All members are given a hard copy of the band year calendar each year
- All members should always refer to the online calendar for accurate updates

COMMUNICATION

In order for our band to be the best that it can be, we cannot allow ourselves the luxury of making excuses or letting problems go unresolved. Good communication is vital if we are to maintain our Superior tradition!

Effective ways to communicate (for parents and students):

- Seek guidance in Handbook, www.yorkcougarbands.com, York Cougar Band Facebook page, or email newsletter.
- Email Directors - Mr. Brooks – DBROOKS@york.k12.sc.us, Mrs. Brooks – LBROOKS@york.k12.sc.us
- Call band office - Mr. Brooks – 803-818-6246, Mrs. Brooks – 803-818-6247
- Set up an appointment.

Ineffective ways to communicate (for parents and students):

- Call or show up – directors will not take calls or see anyone during instructional time.
- 30 MINUTE RULE: Wishing to speak with directors or staff 30 min before/after an event or rehearsal.
 - Only in emergency situations – other situations and planning need to be taken care of in advance.
- Communicating with anyone in the "heat" of a moment.
- Passing information which could be viewed as "gossip." If you want the real story seek the source.
- Contacting a non-Director staff member.

Forms of communication:

- The band sends emails with news and reminders once to 5 times a week.
- Band Text Service – Instructions to enroll:
 - Text the message @ychsbands to the number 81010. If you have trouble, text the same message to 803-443-0421
 - Follow the directions as prompted
- York Cougar Bands Facebook Page! "Like" York Cougar Bands to get our newsfeed and pictures
- LIVE Calendar – link on www.yorkcougarbands.com
- Visit www.yorkcougarbands.com

GRADING

I. Daily Grades

Students receive grades each day based on preparedness and participation in class/rehearsals. Students who fail to bring required materials/equipment to class/rehearsals will receive a reduced daily grade. Students must bring a note from home if their instrument is in the shop.

II. Assessments, Rehearsals, & Performances

Students will have playing and written assessments/evaluations throughout the year.

*Tardy for rehearsal = 1 letter grade reduction *Missed rehearsal = 0 for Daily Rehearsal Grade (see VII)

*Missed performance = 0 for Major Test Grade *Competitions/Festivals counted twice (see VII)

III. Quizzes/Pass offs

Playing quizzes and pass offs are conducted often to monitor progress of each student. Quizzes/Pass offs may cover scales, concert music, selected exercises, routine, and etc. Pass offs are pass/fail, but may be attempted an unlimited amount of time before the end of the grading period.

IV. Calculation of Grades

Daily/Materials/Rehearsals – 20% Quiz/Homework – 20% Tests/Performances/Projects – 60%

V. Missing Assignments/Low Grades

It is the student's responsibility to ask for makeup assignments. Students may make up missing assignments or low test grades as many times as desired by the end of the grading period.

VI. Extra Credit

Submit programs from "serious music concerts" attended along with a paragraph describing the experience to receive extra credit.

VII. Alternative Assignments

In the event of an EXCUSED absence, students may complete a predetermined alternative assignment (Alternative Assignment form available in the band room) or make up the time (form available in the band room) to receive partial credit for a missed assignment/rehearsal/performance. The alternative should be equal to the time spent on the original event. The forms are located in the folio cabinet in the band room.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

The time commitment and responsibility placed on each parent and member of band programs is realized, especially during the marching season. We try to keep this in mind when planning necessary rehearsal time needed for the success of our students, and attempt to choose and balance the number and quality of events in which we participate. Please see the "Grading" section of this handbook to indicate how grades are affected by attendance.

➤ EXPECTATIONS:

- 100% Attendance is expected/required of all members at camps, rehearsals, games, and competitions/performances (grades 8th-12th). These responsibilities will be clearly communicated well in advance.

➤ ATTENDANCE POLICIES:

1. **When a student is going to be absent, the directors expect a parent phone call or email in advance so that we know the location of your student.**
2. **When tardy or absent from a practice, an email/signed written statement is required for documentation.**
3. Excessive absences and tardies may result in demotion or elimination from the program.
4. All Wednesdays are kept open for doctor's appointments, lessons, etc. Please schedule these accordingly.
5. Other school activities (i.e., club meetings) conflicting with rehearsal time will be arranged with the advisors and Directors.
6. In the event a student must miss a rehearsal, the student must turn in a parent/medical excuse (at least 4 days in advance).
7. **A rehearsal absence (for whatever reason) during the week of a performance may result in a student not being allowed to perform. The student is still required to attend the performance with the band as normal.**

<u>EXCUSED ABSENCES</u>	<u>UNEXCUSED ABSENCES</u>
Personal Illness w/written documentation	Doctor/Dentist Appointments (please schedule accordingly)
Pre-Approved school function	Work Conflicts
Funerals	School events/meetings (<i>without</i> director approval)
Emergency	Any other absences

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

We expect personal conduct during school/after-school events to reflect favorably upon the school, the band, and fellow band members. Failure to comply with band, school, or civil regulations will result in the following depending on severity:

1. Warning/Demotion/Loss of privileges
2. Parent Call or Email/Alternative Assignment
3. Action by school administration

Expectations of every band member (see course syllabus for instructional expectations):

1. BE PROFESSIONAL (TIME and PLACE)
2. Be at least 10 min (but no more than 30) early to all practices and performances.
3. Listen when someone is speaking (LOOK and LISTEN).
4. No PDA (Public Display of Affection).
 - a. *PDA is defined as, but not limited to: holding hands, hugging, kissing, etc.*
5. Students may not have hair dyed an unnatural human color (pink, blue, purple).
6. Arrive at all class meetings, practices and performances with the correct equipment and positive attitude.
7. Make a real effort to learn and improve daily.
8. Become responsible for and expect to assume the consequences of your actions.
9. Treat your uniform, equipment, music, staff, and parent support with respect.
10. Follow all duties, school regulations and all travel instructions.
11. No gum in band facilities.
12. Clean cubby/locker at least once a week.
13. Observe your "Clean up Duty" on assigned days/times (allow 10-15 min)
14. Keep up with your belongings - YCHS and the Band Directors are not responsible for personal items left around.
15. **DO NOT TOUCH OR PLAY ANY INSTRUMENT OR EQUIPMENT THAT DOES NOT BELONG TO YOU WITHOUT PERMISSION.** This includes ALL percussion equipment, school owned instruments, computers, and other students' instruments.
16. If you think you might get in trouble – **DON'T DO IT!**

General Procedures:

Procedures are how we do things. Everything we do has a particular procedure. Here are a few of the basics:

- ✓ Leaving your seat -Raise hand to ask permission
- ✓ Using the phone -Ask for permission
- ✓ Entering Class -Read instructions on board / cubby / locker/music / seat-position / warm up
- ✓ Asking/Respond to question -Raise your hand
- ✓ Cubbies & Lockers -Keep neat and orderly
- ✓ Turning in fundraising \$ -Observe deadlines / Fill out appropriately / Turn in appropriately
- ✓ Listening to announcements -Everyone quiet
- ✓ Band Announcements -Check screen at beginning of class / listen to announcements / check email/ texts/ Facebook
- ✓ Getting Help -Ask a more advanced student / set up session with staff or directors
- ✓ Practicing -Structured DAILY practice
- ✓ Storing Music -MB music in Black Notebook / CB music in folder
- ✓ Setting Up -Each class responsible for setting up for their class
- ✓ Tearing Down -Last class (or other) stack chairs / stands on racks
- ✓ Instrument Cases -Place under chair / or behind you when standing
- ✓ Clean up duties -Officers will advise (allow 5-10 min)

Use of the Band Facility:

The use of the band facilities before, after, and during school is a privilege. Students who abuse the facilities will be disciplined accordingly. Any abuse or damage will be considered vandalism.

- **BAND ROOM PORCHES/ENTRYWAYS** - These areas should free from loitering – especially before/after school, rehearsals or events.
- **BAND ROOM** - No horseplay or throwing things in/around the band room. All percussion and guard equipment is off limits to anyone not specifically designated to use. Water only!
- **INSTRUMENT STORAGE ROOM** – Is for retrieving your instrument/equipment only. Lockers are not for storing food, beverage, or loose clothing or papers. You should only be in this room for a maximum of 2 minutes.
- **LIBRARY** - The library is private and is to be used by Directors & band librarians. See Director to check out materials.
- **UNIFORM ROOM** - Only the Lt. of Operations for uniforms and their crew should ever enter this room unless it is used for practice.
- **BAND OFFICES** - All persons should keep in mind that this is a place of business. NO ONE should be in the band offices when director(s) are not present.
- **COUGARETTES ROOM** – Only Cougarettes are allowed in the room.

The Cougar Band Philosophy On Winning...

Be more concerned about how YOU live and how you are shaped by your involvement with the band program, rather than what your peers or a panel of judges think of you. Learn not to worry about the things which you have no control over, such as performance order, the adjudication panel, the weather, etc. Work very hard on the things that you can control. The value of performance or competitions is formed in the preparation invested in it. It is more about the journey, not the destination. If you do your best each day, the trophy case will take care of itself - and stand for what we are really about.

SCHOOL MUSIC USE AND CARE

All music is assigned and loaned to students by Directors and/or librarian. The sharing of music is not acceptable.

1. Students should always use a pencil when marking on music...**NEVER MARK MUSIC IN INK.**
2. Students are held accountable for all music that is issued to them. A fee will result in lost marching band and concert band music. Solo and Ensemble music must be replaced by student/parent according to cost.

SCHOOL INSTRUMENT AND EQUIPMENT USE AND CARE

Instruments owned by the band program are available for student use. Each student who uses a school-owned instrument or Cougarettes equipment is responsible for the care of that property. If an instrument/equipment is damaged due to misuse or negligence, the student will be responsible for the entire cost of the repair or replacement. Malicious damage to any instrument/equipment will be addressed under appropriate YCHS and York School District One policies. Students who use school-owed instruments will have a different membership fee rate to aid in annual overhaul and eventual replacement. Students will also be responsible for supplying himself/herself with an appropriate mouthpiece/reeds-unless otherwise directed.

FUNDRAISING & THE KIDS ACCOUNT

Mr. Brooks is the chief financial coordinator of the York Cougar Bands. All financial questions regarding Membership Fees, and Kids Account should be directed to him.

EVERY member of the band and guard is expected to participate in EVERY fundraiser.

The YCHS Bands fundraising activities generate revenue two-fold:

1) YCHS Bands General Fund - The YCHS Bands General Fund is used for operational expenses for ALL STUDENTS in the entire YCHS Band program.

2) YCHS Bands Kids Account-The YCHS Bands Kids Account is used for YCHS Band students to cover the cost of Band/Cougarettes Membership Fees and Band Trips we take every 2 years. This is done to insure that each Band/Cougarettes student has fair and equal opportunity to pay for Band/Cougarettes Membership Fees and Trips through fundraising profits, which reduces the amount of out-of-pocket monies having to be spent by parents to cover these expenses.

In name only, the individual tracking of fundraising profits is referred to as an "account" for each student. The word "account" is really not an accurate term to describe the tracking of each student's fundraising profits. Some people may think that it is like a "bank account" or "savings account", but that is not the case. The money that is raised and placed into the YCHS Bands Kids Account is the property of the YCHS Bands, and is not the individual property of students to spend as they wish. We are simply allowing students to apply their individual fundraising profits to their cost for Band/Cougarettes Membership Fees or our biennial Trip, so that their cost will be reduced in proportion to the amount of fundraising.

All student fundraising profits and trip payments are deposited into a special YCHS school account called the "YCHS Bands Kids Account". All checks to tour companies, bus lines, hotels, and theme parks, are written from this account. Mr. Brooks keeps track of each student's fundraising records, fundraising profits, and balances. We track individual fundraising profits to establish a sense of fairness for all students. Simply stated, the more students sell, the more revenue they generate for their Kids Account and for the General Fund.

The YCHS Bands profit-sharing breakdown for our 2 types of fundraising is shown as follows:

- Fall Fry & Winter Fry – Once again, we will be tracking individual student fundraising profits and keeping up with them in what is referred to as the "YCHS Band Kids Account." The more tickets sold, plus hours worked will result in more points going into an individual student's "Kids Account."
 - Points for the upcoming Fry will be distributed to students as follows:
 - Each ticket sold (up to 50) = 2 POINTS (\$2) each
 - Each ticket sold (over 50) = 3 POINTS (\$3) each
 - Every hour worked at the fry by a student and their parents = 4 POINTS (\$4) each
- Brochure Type Fundraiser – Student NET profits are generally 25% of the total amount of money for sold items. The profit margin on most "brochure" fundraisers is 50%.
 - Total amount of money for items sold = 100%
 - Actual COST of items sold = approx. 50%
 - NET Profit for YCHS Bands Kids Account = 25%
 - NET Profit for YCHS Bands General Fund = 25%

Students' Kids Account funds will accrue for as long as they remain in the YCHS Band Program. When a student has fundraised more money than the Band/Cougarettes Membership Fees or Trip will cost, the leftover balance will remain in the Kids Account for future Band/Guard Fees or for the next biennial Trip (Underclassmen). However, when senior band members graduate, any remaining balance leftover in their Kids Account will revert to the YCHS Band General Fund. If a senior band member has a younger sibling that is already in the band program, their remaining balance may be transferred to that sibling's Kids Account upon graduation. Students are not permitted to transfer Kids Account balances to any other student other than a younger sibling.

CONCERT BANDS UNIFORM

We will observe the following concert black dress. This is needed by the winter concert!

Ladies:	Gentlemen:
Black dress -All Black/Solid Black -Must be ankle length or to the floor -Can be of a formal type (not too many sparkles!) -No spaghetti straps, strapless, deep slits -Neck lines should be tasteful	Black Dress Shirt -All Black/Solid Black -Make sure it is a DRESS Shirt -No golf shirts -Must be long sleeves -Dark buttons if at all possible
or	and
Black Top -All Black/Solid Black -Can be of a formal type (not too many sparkles!) -No spaghetti straps, strapless, deep slits -Neck lines should be tasteful *Tops must fall over the top of the skirt or be tucked in -NO middles showing!	Black Dress Pants/Slacks -All Black/Solid Black -No jeans
worn with	and
Black Skirt -All Black/Solid Black	Black Dress Shoes and Socks -MTX are ok

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Must be ankle length or to the floor -Can be of a formal type (not too many sparkles!) -No deep slits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Athletic Shoes are unacceptable -Must be closed toe -SOLID Black Socks
Shoes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Solid Black DRESS shoe -No sandals -Make sure the entire shoe is black -Watch heel height-make sure you can walk comfortably 	Optional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -If you would like to wear a tie it must be solid black -If you would like to wear a blazer/sport coat/suit coat it must be solid black
All Ladies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Are required to wear black hose-NO knee-highs! -Jewelry should be formal, tasteful, and modest. Pearls, rhinestones, silver, or black jewelry is preferable. -Proper undergarments should be worn with the formal concert attire. They should not show in any way. 	All gentlemen: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -If gentlemen would like to wear an undershirt under their black dress shirt the undershirt must be black – not white or grey

JAZZ UNIFORM

This is the same as above except ladies wear black pants.

INDIVIDUAL STUDENT HOMEWORK / PRACTICE

All students of the YCHS band program are expected to practice at least 5 hours a week from November - May.

Many times, teachers have heard the immature student say, "It is just not fun anymore." The truth is, the "fun" begins as adequate technical skills are acquired by the individual performer. When the student excels, he/she likes his/her instrument, the program, and most important of all, himself. The rewards come full circle. The more you practice, the better you play and the better you play, the more you enjoy to practice.

Practice techniques that will benefit you: Practice should include some basic warm-ups such as long tone studies, major and minor scales, thirds and arpeggios, and technical studies. Once the warm-up is completed, your attention should turn to solo literature, band music, and sight reading materials.

It is helpful to practice around the same time daily if possible, but keep in mind that any amount of progress above the beginners level will take a consistent 45-minute to 1-hour practice session daily. If time is a problem, the practice hour can be split into two sessions of thirty minutes each.

1. Write down assignments & goals for weekly accomplishments. You can assign yourself one scale/arpeggio/third exercise weekly, and master it. If you are proficient at the majors, start the minors. Use a variety of articulation and rhythm patterns.
3. Use a technique book and solo literature
4. Look in a mirror when you practice. (embouchure, posture, hand position, stage presentation, etc.)
5. Use a metronome. Start slowly at first. The speed will come as you gain technical proficiency.
6. Use the "chunk" & "drill" technique on the spots in which you experience the greatest technical difficulty.
7. Sharpen your sight reading ability by reading one etude or exercise daily, playing duets, or rhythm sheets.
8. Plan for tests and auditions far in advance. Nothing gives you an "edge" in competition like the confidence that comes from being well-prepared. It is wise to work on your solo for a period of four to six weeks before performance.
9. Keep a written practice record. Seeing how much time you actually spend on task can provide a clear cut answer to your reasons for progress or lack of advancement.

PRIVATE LESSONS

The key to a great band program lies in the motivation and ability of each individual player. Private instruction is a very important consideration for each student. Directors have little time, when facing a sizable class of students during the school day to correct individual problems in fingering, tone production, rhythm, note recognition, etc. We are very fortunate to be located near local colleges and universities who are able to provide many fine music student and/or instructors. Please refer to the Private Instructor list located on our website, www.yorkcougarbands.com.

FIELD TRIPS

General expectations concerning day and overnight trips:

- Students will abide by the rules for a given trip. Failure to do so will result in an immediate call to parents who will then be required to pick up their student &/or cover any transportation charges. Additional disciplinary measures will follow.

- Tobacco and alcohol are clearly prohibited under school and state law.
- **BE PROFESSIONAL! YOUR behavior is a direct reflection on many entities.**
- Creating any kind of scene in public that will bring attention to the band in a derogatory manner will not be tolerated.
- Profanity of any kind will not be tolerated.
- Students are required to STAY with designated student/parent groups during required times.
- Performances by other bands/performing groups should always be rewarded with applause. Treat any other band's performance in the manner in which you would like to be received.
- Special care should be taken to see that all personal and school property is properly cared for
- Place an identification tag on all school and personal items.
- Students should have a ride home waiting for them as they return to the HS following a trip.
- Trip and medical forms must be completely filled out and returned before a student may travel.
- Students will only visit designated places suggested by directors.
- Curfew and visitation policies (set by directors) must be fully observed at all times.
- Students will adhere strictly to the itinerary for a given trip.
- Students are expected to treat all bus drivers & chaperones with respect
- No video or audio devices may be used on buses unless equipped with headphones.
- Students must remain seated while traveling on buses, and talk in normal conversational voice level.
- All regular school rules apply and will be upheld.
- Students must travel to all events with the band, leaving from school.

Alternate Transportation Following an Event

- A student may leave an away event with a parent **ONLY** after the Directors are given written notice prior to the event. A director must personally observe the student leaving with the parent. Parents are responsible for meeting the group at the buses **IMMEDIATELY** after the event. As soon as all students are on buses and accounted for, the group will leave the event. If a parent has not retrieved their student by this time, the student will ride the bus back to the school with the group.

LARGE SCALE TRIPS

YCHS Bands take a large scale trip every other year. These trips are usually 3-6 days in duration and can range from \$450-\$1,500. The band has 2 fish/shrimp fries a year. These fries enable parents and students to earn funds for their student account to go toward the cost of these trips. Other fundraising opportunities may also be available.

Student Selection

Priority in selection of students will be granted respecting the following criteria:

- Student must be a year-long band/Cougarettes student
 - Jazz Band does not take the place of any other course for year-round status.
- Student/Parent in good financial status with the band
- All Membership Fees are paid in full before the trip deposit is due
- Student deposit is made by the due date
- Student must hold a good upstanding social and financial status/relationship with directors, students, teachers, and school administrators.

Trip Guidelines and a Student Application/Contract will be given to each member during a trip year.

YCHS BAND STUDENT LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Application process will be explained in depth at appropriate time. A contract will be given for both students and parents to sign. All are encouraged to attend leadership workshops and clinics. The entire team will attend the YCHS Band Summer Leadership Retreat. Positions are subject to change any time at the discretion of directors.

Expectations of ALL serving in a Leadership role

Exemplary personality, enforces extreme positive values and expectations of the band, assumes a position of leadership, maintains the respect of the band and Cougarettes, attends all scheduled meetings

Leadership Team members will also be placed on duty teams.

Possible Positions / Duties

- A. President (preferably 11th or 12th)
 1. Organizes and supervises clean-up of the band room/field after rehearsals and performances
 2. Fundraising student coordinator/motivator
 3. Assists Directors in any way possible
 4. Sees that moral/motivation is on a constant up rise with all students

5. Organizes officer meetings & competition awards planning
 6. Delegates duties to Captains & Lieutenants – keeping in constant contact
 7. Assists with food/meal program
- B. Vice President (preferably 11th or 12th)
1. Organizes officer meetings
 2. Assists Directors in any way possible
 2. Sees that moral/motivation is on a constant up rise with all students
 4. Food/meal program Coordinator
- C. Secretary (10th-12th)
1. Serves as the music librarian
 2. Serves as attendance coordinator
 3. Equipment inventory manager
 4. Assists in any office type duties – correspondence, letter, paperwork
- D. Drum Major (at least one year marching experience)
1. Takes over and/or assists with rehearsals or warm-ups if necessary
 2. Task manager on the field & band room
 3. Conducts and commands the marching band on the field, at pep rallies and games
 4. Assists in drill teaching
 5. Assists Directors and staff in administrative and organizational tasks
 6. Has and practices a thorough knowledge of music scores, marching fundamentals
 7. Audition
 8. Must attend at The Drum Major Academy prior to Band Camp – see Directors
- E. Captains (10th-12th)
1. Assists instructors anyway possible
 2. Exhibits exceptional technique & performance on instrument/equipment
 3. Exhibits ability to communicate and teach
 4. Conduct rehearsals/sectionals
 5. Plan sectional rehearsals when needed (any season)
 6. Bring to Directors'/Staff's attention any problems in the music/visual that may have been overlooked
 7. Promote fundamentals of correct technique
 8. Create and promote team camaraderie among section & band
 9. Responsible for proper care, maintenance, and organization of equipment
- F. Lieutenants of Operations (10th-12th)
- Cougarettes:
1. Coordinates distribution/receiving, maintenance and organization of uniforms
 2. Manages equipment, making sure everyone has what they need and it is in working order
 3. Manages & organizes storage rooms
- Percussion:
1. Percussion manager – helps with preparations and maintenance
 2. Assists Percussion staff with equipment needs
 3. Works with pit/front crew
- Uniform:
1. Coordinates distribution/receiving of uniforms and stays until properly stored
 2. Assists assigned Uniform parents in ANY way
 3. Manages & organizes the uniform room
 4. Assists with food/meal program
- G. Squad Leaders (10th-12th selected by directors and staff during first week of camp)
1. Responsible for their squad during rehearsal
 2. Knows and understands thoroughly the marching band fundamentals
 3. Exceptional executing of marching fundamentals
 4. Exhibits maturity in communication & ability to teach and learn quickly

STUDENT HONOR GROUPS These are simply supplemental activities that are not required

Winthrop Band Clinic – November	All-State Band - March
Region Band – February	Carolina Youth Winds

STUDENT AWARDS

Only students enrolled year-round are eligible (Jazz Band does not take the place of any other course for year-round status).

Recognition of Seniors	Outstanding Sophomore Awards
Outstanding Freshman Awards	Outstanding Junior Awards
The Louis Armstrong Jazz Award	Outstanding Senior Awards
Most Improved Awards	<u>Other Awards</u> – The director(s) may see fit to award students using medals, certificates, or plaques for overall participation.
John Phillip Sousa Award - Student has continually shown the highest level of dedication, musicianship, leadership, and esprit de corps. This may be a person interested in making music a career or one who would be a success, if interested. This award has become a nationwide symbol of excellence in musical achievement	

YCHS BANDS LETTER/BAR SYSTEM

This system is designed to reward those comprehensive students showing outstanding conduct and achievement. Our goal is to have a well-rounded comprehensive program, where we are involved in many different activities as well as the individual student. Being comprehensive also enables to be eligible for the coveted State OPA, or Outstanding Performance Award. In order for us to achieve this goal, all students must participate and/or excel in the following categories.

The criteria for Winds and Percussion to receive a Band Letter/Bar are as follows:

1. Marching Band – After school rehearsals w/ no unexcused absences, and 5 or less excused, no absences from performances including parades.
2. Concert Band – After school rehearsals w/ no unexcused absences, and 2 or less excused, no absences from performances.
3. All Pass-Offs complete
4. Region Audition – must register and attend the audition
5. Solo & Ensemble – must register and perform a solo (with accompaniment for winds).

The criteria for Cougarettes to receive a Band Letter/Bar are as follows:

1. Marching Band – After school rehearsals w/ no unexcused absences, and 5 or less excused, no absences from performances including parades
2. Winterguard - w/ no unexcused absences, and 2 or less excused, no absences from performances
3. Winter & Spring Concert Help/Performance
4. All Pass-Offs complete

NEEDED EQUIPMENT/SUPPLIES

Roper Music will be visiting our school during band camp, and will have these items.
This Equipment is for Marching Band/Marching Band Class & Concert Band Class.

ALL wind (woodwinds & brass) students will need the following:

- ✓ Flip folder
- ✓ Music Lyre (for your instrument)
- ✓ Black 1 inch 3 ring binder w/ approx 10 clear plastic sheet protectors
- ✓ Metronome/Tuner
- ✓ Sport/wicking Black Shorts– for Thursday rehearsals once school begins
- ✓ Sport/wicking White & Gray “tops” – t-shirts, appropriate tank tops etc. for class
 - White for Tuesday rehearsals once school begins
 - Gray for Thursday rehearsals once school begins

Clarinet & Saxophone:

- ✓ Ligature: Will need a Rovner Ligature.
- ✓ Reeds: Size 2 ½ -3 ½ “Legere” synthetic reeds for Marching Band. Size 2 ½ -3 ½ Vandoren Reeds for Concert Band. The V12 for Clarinet and the V16 for Saxophone are recommended.
- ✓ Mouthpieces: Clarinets - Vandoren B45 mouthpieces. Saxophones-Selmer C*.

Trumpet:

- ✓ Mouthpieces: Bach 3C mouthpiece
- ✓ Valve Oil: Any kind – (NO “Blue Juice”)

French Horn/Mellophone:

- ✓ Mouthpiece: Yamaha 30C4
- ✓ Extra Rotary String: any brand
- ✓ Rotary Valve Oil: any brand

Trombone/Baritone:

- ✓ Mouthpiece: Bach 6 ½ AL.
- ✓ Valve Oil: Any kind – (NO “Blue Juice”)
- ✓ Slide Grease for trombones

ALL Percussionists will need the following:

- ✓ One roll of white and one roll of black electrical tape at all times
 - ✓ All percussionists need to have a Vic Firth EP2 Educational Pack (Contains all sticks/mallets needed for concert playing)
 - ✓ Black 1 inch 3 ring binder w/ approx 10 clear plastic sheet protectors
- All marching snares – see instructor at camp. All marching tenors and basses - see instructor at camp

Cougarettes Members:

- ✓ One roll of white and one roll of black electrical tape at all times
- ✓ Black 1 inch 3 ring binder w/approx. 10 clear plastic sheet protectors
- ✓ Sport/wicking Black “bottoms” – shorts, warm up pants, leggings etc. for all days.
- ✓ Sport/wicking “tops” – t-shirts, appropriate tank tops etc.
 - Gray – Tuesdays
 - White – Thursdays
 - Black – All other days

It is also suggested that Cougarettes members purchase their own flag, rifle, and saber for personal practice.

- 6' silver pole with a 36"x54" flag silk
- 4"x1/2" and a 3 1/2"x1/2" carriage bolt from Lowe's or Home Depot
 - Contact Kathy Pickens - retail seller for DSI (Director's Showcase International) Kapick@charter.net
 - <http://www.swbandproducts.com/store/flag-poles-accessories/>

MEMBERSHIP FEES

OPTION A

Pay in FULL on May 2nd 5pm-6pm at Registration (ONE-TIME PAYMENT)

- Upper Woodwinds (*Flutes, Clarinets, Alto Sax*)
 - \$250
- All Others using School owned instruments for Marching and/or Concert Band (*Bass Clarinet, Tenor Sax, Bari Sax, Trumpet, Horn, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba, Percussion*)
 - \$300
- Cougarettes
 - \$325

OPTION B

3 Payments

- Upper Woodwinds (*Flutes, Clarinets, Alto Sax*)
 - \$100 Deposit – May 2nd 5pm-6pm at Registration
 - \$75 – July 22nd
 - \$75 – August 20th
- All Others using School owned instruments for Marching and/or Concert Band (*Bass Clarinet, Tenor Sax, Bari Sax, Trumpet, Horn, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba, Percussion*)
 - \$100 Deposit – May 2nd 5pm-6pm at Registration
 - \$100 – July 22nd
 - \$100 – August 20th
- Cougarettes
 - \$100 Deposit – May 2nd 5pm-6pm at Registration
 - \$112.50 – July 22nd
 - \$112.50 – August 20th

OPTION C

Create your own – All Due by August 20th

- \$100 Deposit Due May 2nd 5pm-6pm at Registration
 - Explain your payment plan below, with the balance being due by 8/20

- Membership Fees are NON-REFUNDABLE after May 17th.
- If my student becomes a non-member after May 17th, I may be responsible for the full fee amount to cover cost of show rewrites caused by the student's absence.
- Financial matters concerning members and their families are ONLY the business of Mr. Brooks and the YCHS bookkeeper.
- Cougarettes Only – Once the costume/uniform order is placed, I will be responsible for full payment of costume/uniform suit if my student becomes a non-member.

PAYMENT PROCEDURES

Mr. Brooks is the chief financial coordinator of the York Cougar Bands. All financial questions regarding Fees, and Kids Account should be directed to him.

Students/Parents will make payments using the following procedures:

- Sealed envelope: w/ student's name, \$ amount, and what the payment goes toward.
 - **Give all payments to Mr. Brooks**
 - Make ALL checks payable to YCHS Band

MARCHING BAND HANDBOOK

MARCHING ASSIGNMENTS

Marching band shows are designed with the aid of computerized marching drill and music writing programs. Drill designers charge per marching position on the field. Each member will be assigned either a numbered position in the competitive marching show, or designated as a reserve member. Marching assignments are subject to change at any time. *(Note: These assignments are for Marching Band only: July-October)*

- **Spot holder member**
 - A numbered position who will have a specific coordinate sheet detailing their positions on the field by the computer.
 - Performs at all games, competitions, etc.
- **Reserve member**
 - A reserve member is simply a student who will share a numbered position on the field.
 - Reserves will have the same opportunities in the marching experience except for select performance occasions. Younger students, new students, and those with less experience can expect to be reserves more often than upper-classmen. Selection of reserves will be ongoing and can change at any time.
 - Reserve members have the same expectations as all other students.
 - Reserves could be worked into the lineup as spot holder places open up, or as necessary to replace members who may be having a difficult time.
 - Reserve members designated to take a spot holder's position during the competitive season are selected based on movement skills first, then musicianship.
 - Age & experience are NOT determining factors
 - Instrument is also NOT a determining factor, as a student may serve as a visual spot holder for another instrument section.
- **Student not ready for membership at this time**

THE "8th GRADE EARLY EXPERIENCE"

- Recommended by middle school director based on musicianship, maturity, and potential.
 - Later evaluated for readiness by high school directors.
- Duration of responsibilities: Band Camp through MB State Championships & potential football playoff games.
- Expected to obey all expectations in handbook, as regular members –not met, demotion or referral to middle school admin.
- Skills are not graded, but should meet expectations and requirements of other students.
- Pass offs are expected.
- Usually named Reserve Members.
- Early Experience members can earn their Block Letter (for jacket order) by completing all criteria during the YCHS Marching Band season, and within their YMS band class. *See YCHS Bands Letter/Bar System

MARCHING BAND REHEARSAL EXPECTATIONS

Rehearsing effectively is our goal. In order to accomplish this, we will follow these guidelines during rehearsals:

- ✓ BE PROFESSIONAL Time and Place

- ✓ Arrival Be early (10-15) to meeting place, read board, have the required materials, be in the block by given time or by rehearsal start time
- ✓ Moving as One Follow all commands with extreme execution while traveling with the group – together!
- ✓ Water Breaks Scheduled into rehearsal / taken when needed / ALL should have their own / no horseplay
- ✓ Materials Always have: pencil, coordinate sheet, music, notebook, instrument, chips/joeys
- ✓ Cell Phones Must be in silent mode during rehearsal on the sideline – NOT on the FIELD or on your during sectionals
- ✓ Resetting Drill Move quickly - no more than a few seconds. Be in place by count down.
- ✓ Problem/Question Raise hand for officer, staff, or director.
- ✓ Individual playing We warm-up and rehearse together
- ✓ Talking/Socializing Reserved for breaks ONLY
- ✓ Restroom/Water Use right BEFORE rehearsal/roll. Get your water for rehearsal BEFORE rehearsal/roll
- ✓ Music Kept in a black notebook in sheet protectors
- ✓ Attire Flexible athletic shoes-no stiff soles, “flat bottoms,” or sandals / socks / mid-thigh gym type shorts / full coverage shirts appropriate for athletic activity / hair pulled away from face
- ✓ Dismissal By “Verizon Wireless” time indicated on calendar. Allow 5-10 min from dismissal time for pack up, & clean up duties. Exception: front ensemble. Director/Staff is not responsible for students getting to their ride late due to socializing with peers
NOTE: In the event that a student is habitually late from being picked up from practice, school administration and SRO will be notified.
- ✓ EMERGENCY The same procedures will be observed as if it were during the school day for tornado etc. In the case of such events direct parent contact must be made with Directors and/or staff before a student may leave the facility.

BAND CAMP

The purpose of band camp is to prepare marching and playing skills for the coming fall season, much like conditioning for other sports. Attending a camp is good for the morale of a group. Individuals must learn to live, work, and play together, according to guidelines which will benefit all as a group. In order for band camp, and the marching performance in general, to be successful, every member of the band must attend. Band camp provides an opportunity for the Director and staff to have all of the students present at all times, in both mind and body.

Only school related activities will be excused absences from camp. All other absences may result in part assignment adjustment, demotion, or elimination.

Band Camp Expectations:

1. Each band member is expected to conduct himself/herself in a proper PROFESSIONAL and socially acceptable manner at all times.
2. Any valuables brought to camp are the student's responsibility.
3. Insubordination to camp staff, parents, or Directors will not be accepted.
4. Athletic shoes and socks are to be worn all times when indicated–may bring sandals for meals and breaks
5. Revealing or provocative clothing will not be allowed (watch short lengths, tank tops).
6. All rules pertaining to behavior on school grounds and involvement with a school related activity will apply.
7. Each day you should have all of your required materials
8. **Eat breakfast before you come.** Foods such as pop-tarts, toast, bananas, or even peanut butter and jelly sandwiches will help you get through the morning. **Stay away from** Milk, cereal, eggs, bacon, sodas, anything greasy etc.
9. **Eat Lunch & Pay Attention to what you eat** - Your body needs the **right kind** of fuel to perform properly. Burgers and pizza are great to eat – but to perform properly you need lots of fruits and vegetables, lean meats and grains, bread and pasta are a good idea.
10. **Drink plenty of water throughout the day. It takes at least 2 hours for water to be fully absorbed.**
11. Everyone is expected to have an instrument that works properly.

12. Get plenty of rest – It is much easier to concentrate and have a good attitude if you are well rested. Staying up late the night before a show day or camp day is probably not a good idea.
13. Stretch, stretch, stretch - Modern drills place a greater physical demand on all band members. Proper stretching allows your body to better handle the stress placed on it by the drill. We will guide you through a stretching regimen, or consult your physical education teacher, trainer or doctor to see what stretching exercises they suggest.

Gross infraction of the above expectations may lead to dismissal of the student from camp, or future band activities.

Items students need for Camp/Season:

*See also General Handbook – Needed Equipment/Supplies

1. Instrument in good working order
2. 1 Black 3 ring binder w/ approx. 10 clear plastic sheet protectors – Clear Insert Cover is recommended
3. Sunglasses/Hat
4. A **GRAY** towel the size of your instrument (guard should have one that is hand towel size)
5. Your Music
6. Athletic/Wicking Clothing: light colored shirts, athletic shoes (not flat bottom), socks
7. Sunscreen & Bug Spray
8. RED Water Jug
9. A **good** Lunch
10. Pencils
11. Your Donated Snacks/Water/Drinks
12. Positive Attitude
13. Deodorant – no perfume or body
14. A book bag or gym bag for some type for marching band only – a “marching band bag” (maybe available in the store)
15. CLARINETS & SAXOPHONES – Size 3 -3 ½ “Legere” synthetic reeds
16. BRASS & WOODWINDS ONLY – A Tuner (no smartphone apps)
17. BRASS, WOODWINDS, & PERCUSSION –metronome (free downloadable smartphone apps are fine)
18. ALL PERCUSSION – ear plugs, you can get the disposable foam type or nicer reusable type that look like ear buds

FOOTBALL GAME EXPECTATIONS

- Football games serve as performance opportunities for the marching band. We are present to serve in support of the team and represent our high school.
- All YCHS Band Students are “walking billboards” for our band, school and community. Represent with dignity and class!
- All YCHS Band Students are to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times.
- We observe the rules of our football coaches when playing in the stands.
- Band members are expected to remain in the stands in his/her ASSIGNED SEAT and respond quickly to direction from the Drum Major or Directors.
- Permission to leave the stands will be granted by the Directors only, for emergency reasons. Students leaving the stands must be accompanied by a chaperone, Directors, or Staff Member.
 - This is to ensure safety of all members.
 - This includes restroom visits.
- No individual playing in the stands.
 - This includes improvisation of stands tunes.
 - NO previous arrangements are to be played.
- Students must remain in full uniform unless instructed.
 - This includes Summer Uniform AND Formal Uniform
 - The Summer Uniform is NOT to be added to NOR modified in any way. The Summer Uniform will consist of the “Logo T,” black gym shirts with black compression shorts, and white tennis shoes.
 - The ONLY piercings that will be allowed in uniform will be gold or silver “stud” earrings. No exceptions.
- 3rd quarter breaks (home games only) are a privilege and must be earned.
 - All Pass-offs should be current

- Inspection (1st round) should be passed
- No tardies or absences (of any kind) for the week
 - During 3rd quarter break band students should NOT consume food or drinks other than water (even if parents are present in the stadium). Students will stay in the stadium area. Students will not venture to the opposing side. Students will not participate in PDA. Students will conduct themselves in a professional manner and will NOT be seen using profanity or having a conversation that is not appropriate.
- Third quarter break is dependent upon audience attendance and student safety.
- Members will need to plan to eat before or after game. Members and game chaperones may not eat during the game – even during half time.
 - *We do not eat during games to prevent instrument deterioration and to maintain cleanliness of uniform.*
 - *No food or drinks (besides water) will ever be allowed in the stands at a football game.*
- No PDA (Public Display of Affection) during games, or while in uniform.
 - *PDA is defined as, but not limited to: holding hands, hugging, kissing, etc.*
- ALL members are expected to fully participate – STAND during ENTIRE piece, PLAY correct part, and “DANCE” with the rest of the band – NOT alone.
- No non-members in the band section during the game. This includes, but is not limited to: Alumni, non-band friends, non-chaperones/volunteers, etc.
- Inclement Weather:
 - *In the case of rain (during marching season) students should prepare to perform as usual at all games, in either Formal or Summer Uniform, unless notified otherwise. Administration will make the call as to if we will travel/perform at games. If a scheduled away game is postponed, the band will more than likely not attend the rescheduled event. If a scheduled home game is postponed, all students will attend unless otherwise directed.*

HOME GAME PROCEDURES

- Regular Home Game Schedule: 4pm-5:30pm Stadium Rehearsal
5:30-6pm Game day meal (provided)
6pm-6:30pm Dress for game
6:30pm-7pm Inspection, stands rehearsal
- We feed the students before the game because they cannot eat during the game.
- The band will provide water to refill jugs.
- Students ALWAYS need to bring their summer uniform to school with them on Fridays
- Once we begin wearing the full formal band uniform they will need to bring their uniform accessories (reminders on specifics later)

AWAY GAME PROCEDURES

- Students will always be given a call time. This is the time that they must be full dressed and have everything they need in the attendance block in the band room.
- Students MUST eat dinner before the game (this is on their own – a meal will not be provided)
 - Just like home games, we do not eat during the game.
 - Students may leave campus right after school for their dinner, or bring a bag dinner to eat at the school.
 - There WILL be supervision in the band room between the time school lets out and the game call time.
- We should return to the school after most away game between 10:30 & 11pm. It is the student’s responsibility to let their ride know when the buses are 15-20 minutes away from the school, so that the student is picked up promptly once the buses have returned.
- Away Games count as major test grades just like Home Games.

SPIN CAMP FRIDAYS – Cougarettes

- New work and choreography will be taught during this time. Any changes that need to be made will also occur during this time.
- It is imperative that each member is present to receive this more individualized training.
- Attendance at these Spin Camps counts just like any other game (major test grade).

UNIFORMS – SUMMER/FALL

SUMMER UNIFORM - These are needed by Camp Exhibition Performance

The summer uniform is worn by all band and color guard members during early (warm) football games and at other band events consists of:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| -Logo Band T (provided) | -****NEW**** Solid Black gym shorts (Mid-thigh) |
| -White Ankle Socks | -Black compression shorts under gym shorts |
| -Predominantly White Athletic Shoes | -There should be no appearance of jewelry |

FALL MB UNIFORM

Uniforms are fitted and assigned during band camp each year. They are to be kept at school in the uniform room at all times unless special permission is given by the Directors or Uniform Supervisor. Uniforms are issued before and returned to the racks after each performance.

Students are financially responsible for the uniform. Alterations will ONLY be conducted by designated volunteers.

THESE UNIFORMS COST approx. \$575 EACH. ANYONE WILLFULLY ABUSING A UNIFORM WILL PAY FULL PURCHASE PRICE FOR THAT UNIFORM. Students may be charged a dry cleaning fine if excessively dirty.

MB Uniform Expectations:

1. Proper respect- must be worn COMPLETELY and PROPERLY -jackets zipped & buttoned, shoulder straps - sleeves never pushed up - unless exceptions are made by the director(s).
2. Shoes must be clean.
3. Shako (headwear) must be worn squarely and never on the back of head.
 - a. On your head properly with chin strap in place
 - b. Cradled in your arm, facing forward and upright
 - c. On the ground, middle attention position *Do not touch mirror *Store and handle plume properly
4. When traveling or storing uniforms, they are to neatly hang in the issued bag.
5. The band uniform must be worn with the assigned marching shoes, tall black socks, and gloves.
6. No jewelry may be worn with the uniform.
7. No makeup should be applied to the neck or chin to avoid makeup on the uniform collar – exception = guard
8. Public display of affection should NOT occur while in uniform.
9. Theme t-shirt or logo-t must be worn underneath uniform coat.
10. Please do not permit yourself to be around smoking while in uniform.
11. Members need to arrive with their hair up for a performance.
12. Clean shoes BEFORE storing them.
13. DO NOT put socks or shoes in the hat box or garment bag
14. Cougarettes students are expected to clean/wash their own uniform after each performance

SHOES/GLOVES:

Students will need to purchase/order their marching shoes/Cougarettes gloves during camp. Kathy Pickens of *Kathy's Enterprises* will be visiting us during camp to take measurements and orders for shoes and guard gloves.

- **HORN LINE & PERCUSSION SHOES "RevSTEP" = \$39 or TBD**
- **COUGARTTES SHOES = approx \$35 (TBD)**
- **COUGARETTES GLOVES = \$18 or TBD**
 - This is not a part of the Membership Fee. The above is the property of and responsibility of the student.
 - Orders for the above materials will be placed during band camp by Kathy's Enterprises.
 - We will communicate the date prior to
 - Be prepared to provide payment on the order date
 - Please make checks payable to: Kathy Pickens

WOODWIND & BRASS GLOVES:

- Black Performance Gloves - \$5 Students will purchase gloves through the glove team

- White Practice Gloves - \$3 (all brass and woodwind student using school owned instrument must always wear gloves. One free pair at the beginning of the season will be provided.) Purchase through the glove team.

UNIFORM INSPECTION

Inspection of instrument and dress will occur before each event. Inspection is taken very seriously. Should a student not pass, he/she may not perform or dress out for the performance if it is not corrected.

COUGARETTES PROGRAM HANDBOOK

Students may enter into the guard program via audition. Students are expected to try out for, and stay in the program for the following season (may it be fall or winter). Students may NOT try out for and participate in fall guard only or winter guard only. The YCHS Guard Program is a year-long course of study. Should a student drop the program for any reason they may not audition for a season in the future.

SUMMER DANCE

Both Fall & Winter Cougarettes students are expected to participate in the Summer Dance Program. During this time, we will explore technical skills in dance, flag, rifle, and sabre. Students will work with instructors to put together a recital to showcase their talents & efforts. Prior arrangements with directors may be made concerning prior obligations and vacations (*absences during Summer Dance may reflect upon how many pieces the student may be able to participate in during the recital*).

Costume / Wind Suit (Fall Cougarettes)

Along with flags and routines, costumes are a large part of a color guard presentation. Style and visibility are important but so are functionality, durability and comfort. Shoes and gloves complete the look, and also add an element of safety. Directors and staff select the look that will reflect the show concept. Much attention is given to select an organized, professional look that may be flattering to all members.

While you are in uniform, you are constantly being observed. Your personal appearance and your actions represent not only you, but also your team, school and community. The costume and wind suit assigned to you is a valuable asset to the team. You will be responsible for their care and maintenance. If something needs to be fixed or adjusted, you will need to make arrangements to do so. Most dry cleaners have someone that provides alterations. We also have several band moms that may also be willing to help out!

The desired goal is that the York Cougarettes Guard continues a tradition of excellence. The manner in which the team presents itself can leave either a positive or negative impression on its audience. The care of the costume and wind suit and the member's behavior while wearing it, goes far toward creating pride and continuing a tradition of excellence.

- The costume design will be determined by the directors & guard staff. Accessories such as body tights, hair supplies, and makeup will need to be purchased by the member. A list of supplies will be given.
- All portions of your costume and wind suit including undergarments should be kept clean. This includes regularly washing or dry cleaning the costume and wind suit. The wind suit should never be worn if it is visibly dirty.
- The costume and wind suit are property of YCHS Bands. They should be returned after each season(costume)/year(wind suit) dry cleaned, in the dry cleaning bag, with the receipt and student's name attached.
- Wind suits will be issued each year much like our marching band uniform and will only be replaced due to severe wear and tear and/or poor cleaning
- Wind suits may be altered to fit property (pants may NOT touch the ground while standing), but cutting fabric is not prohibited. Any alterations must be easily removed.
- ANYONE WILLFULLY ABUSING A COSTUME OR WIND SUIT WILL PAY FULL PURCHASE PRICE FOR REPLACEMENT. Students may be charged a dry cleaning fine if excessively dirty.
- Once a student has reached Senior status they may purchase their issued wind suit at the reduced price of \$90. Costumes may not be purchased.
- The costume & wind suit should ONLY be worn on days/events designated by directors and staff.

FALL COUGARETTES

This is a highly competitive group that performs as a part of the YCHS Marching Band competitive shows. Performances include football games, parades, and marching competitions. The focus of this group is development of fundamentals of movement, equipment, and design. All current & future members must tryout. Potential members that foresee conflicts with weekday dates 3 weeks prior to the first day of school should NOT tryout. The camp is MANDATORY for all members. Participation in our Summer Dance Program is EXPECTED of all members. After school preparation is required 2-3 times a week August-October. All students selected for the team will be expected to enroll in the 1st semester & 2nd semester Cougarettes/Dance course. The Cougarettes Team is very physically demanding, and is not appropriate for students with chronic health problems.

Band Camp & Spin Camps - Mandatory for all selected team members. The first day of camp is July 22nd!

Band Camp is a crucial time in the development of our members and our fall production. These high-intensity rehearsals give us the training time we need to insure all of our members’ success in the fall show, and the time to teach the choreography and drill before school starts. Attendance is mandatory at these rehearsals per attendance policy (see General Program Handbook: Attendance Policy). Performance spots cannot be guaranteed for those members that do not attend camp (see “Marching Band: Assignments/Reserve Members.”)

Marching Band Season / Fall Cougarettes Season

The marching band season consists of after-school rehearsals, football games, Saturday rehearsals, and Saturday competitions. After-school rehearsals are (some)Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. Please see our current online calendar for times. Attendance is the single greatest factor contributing to the success of our members and our ensemble as a whole (see Marching Band Handbook).

Attendance Policy - See the General Program Handbook

Communication- See the General Program Handbook

Equipment & Supplies - See the General Program Handbook

Membership Fees – See General Program Handbook

Both parents and students will have opportunities to earn credit (through fundraising) towards fees and trips. Once a student has been measured and assigned uniform/flags are purchased, they are responsible for their fees whether they continue with the program or not. If a student quits in the middle of the season without paying their fees, they will be turned in at the end of the school year to their school administration. This will become a school fee, and will follow this student.

<u>One-time purchases:</u>	
Flag Bag	\$32 (buy from us)
Gym Bag	purchase from online store
Gloves	\$18/pair
Undergarments	Purchase on your own at local retailers depending on rehearsal/costume needs
<u>Seasonal</u>	
Shoes	TBD (buy from us – depending on show costume)
Makeup	TBA – instruction will be given
Hair supplies	various (bobby pins, gel, hair spray, etc.)
<i>Please make all checks payable to YCHS Bands</i>	

Fall & Winter Cougarettes Costuming & Make Up

Along with flags and routines, uniforms are a large part of a color guard presentation. Style and visibility are important but so are functionality, durability and comfort. Shoes and gloves complete the look, and also add an element of safety. Directors and staff select the look that will reflect the show concept. Much attention is given to select an organized, professional look that may be flattering to all members.

Theatrical makeup is very different than “every day” makeup. It is darker, more intense, and exaggerated. Please understand that this makeup is not meant for normal – everyday wearing.

Due to lighting, distance, and show concept this dance makeup is a must to enhance facial features so that performers do not appear “washed out” and details can be seen.

While you are in uniform/costume, you are constantly being observed. Your personal appearance and your actions represent not only you, but also your team, school and community. The costume assigned to you is a valuable asset to the team. You will be responsible for their care and maintenance. If something needs to be fixed or adjusted, you will need to make arrangements to do so. Most dry cleaners have someone that provides alterations. We also have several band moms that may also be willing to help out!

The desired goal is that the York Cougarettes Guard continues a tradition of excellence. The manner in which the team presents itself can leave either a positive or negative impression on its audience. The care of the costume and the member’s behavior while wearing it, goes far toward creating pride and continuing a tradition of excellence.

- The costume design will be determined by the directors & guard staff. Accessories such as body tights, hair supplies, and makeup will need to be purchased by the member. A list of supplies will be given.
- All portions of your costume, including undergarments should be kept clean. This includes regularly washing or dry cleaning the costume.
- The costumes are property of YCHS Bands. They should be returned after each season dry cleaned, in the dry cleaning bag, with the receipt and student’s name attached.
- ANYONE WILLFULLY ABUSING A COSTUME WILL PAY FULL PURCHASE PRICE FOR REPLACEMENT. Students may be charged a dry cleaning fine if excessively dirty.

WINTER COUGARETTES

These are highly competitive groups that perform competitive shows in gyms. Performances include competitions, pep rallies, and possible community events. The focus of this group is development of fundamentals of movement, equipment, and design. All current & future members must tryout. Participation in our Summer Dance Program is EXPECTED of all members. After school preparation is required 1-2 times a week December-March. Winter Cougarettes is very physically demanding, and is probably not appropriate for students with chronic health problems.

Team Structure

Cadet Team - The Cadet Winter Cougarettes will be comprised of 7th & 8th graders. This is a competitive group that tends to be larger and very entertaining. The focus of this group is training and fundamentals of movement, equipment, and basic design. These students will compete in a class with other groups also comprised of all middle school students. These students should try out for Fall Cougarettes in the spring to further develop their skills and continue and grow in the YCHS Cougarettes program. All current & future members must tryout.

Varsity Pearl & Diamonds Teams -The Varsity Winter Cougarettes will be comprised of 9th -12th graders (current 12th graders may continue in the program, but only new 9th-11th graders may audition). This is a highly competitive group that tends to be smaller and produce more theatrical shows. The focus of this group is development of fundamentals of movement, equipment and basic design. These students should try out for Fall Cougarettes in the spring to further develop their skills and continue and grow in the YCHS Cougarettes Program. All current & future members must tryout. All high school students selected for the Varsity Team will be expected to enroll in the 2nd semester Winter Guard course.

The YCHS guidance department will work with individuals to ensure their placement in the course. Should a student not be able to take the course (and they are not enrolled in a regular band course) the student will have to forfeit their position on the team.

Winter Cougarettes Camp Days

Camp is a crucial time in the development of our members and our productions. These high-intensity rehearsals give us the training time we need to insure all of our members’ success in the show, time to teach the work/drill, and time for changes noted by judges. Attendance is mandatory at these rehearsals per the attendance policy. Performance spots cannot be guaranteed for those members that do not attend these camps.

Winter Cougarettes Season

Winter guard is an indoor competitive circuit where color guard units compete by themselves to prerecorded music in gyms. The Winter Guard season usually begins in December or January and lasts until March. The rehearsal schedule is very minimal compared to other programs during this time of year – 1-3 times a week. Once published, the schedule can be found on our online calendar with the other band program happenings. Our teams usually compete 2-5 times within a 9-week competition season. Attendance is crucial to the success of these teams due to the minimal training schedule.

Attendance Policy - See General Program Handbook

Communication - See General Program Handbook

Dress Code for Rehearsals - Exercise clothing – black shorts/leggings/yoga pants, white, gray, or black tops – no pajamas

Rehearsal Expectations

- On time (you should arrive 10-15 minutes early), Cell phones off, Quiet, Focused, Positive Attitude, Prepared, Willing and ready to learn
- These will be expanded upon once the teams are selected.

Competitions

We will be competing in a performance association circuit. Competitions are all day events and attendance is required. At competitions, we perform our show for an audience and compete against other groups in our class. After we perform, we will watch other guards, and will typically go to concessions for lunch. At competitions, you must stay in groups of 4 at all times. Until awards, you may eat, go to merchandise stands, and watch guards. At other times the whole guard must sit together as a unit. We will applaud respectfully for other guards, and be professional at all times. Performers, staff, and chaperones will stay in a group while sitting in the gym and while traveling back-stage at all performance venues. This includes, but is not limited to, holding/staging spaces and transitioning on and off the floor. After awards, we will go back to the buses and head home. Specific schedules for each competition will be handed out the week of the competition.

Parents should attend our competitions to cheer on our teams. It is very appropriate to yell and cheer us on and hold up posters. Parents are asked to stay in the performance venue as we transition on and off the floor to prevent traffic issues for our teams and other teams performing. Admission at competitions is usually approx. \$8-\$10. Parents will also be needed on competition days for chaperoning, driving the truck, and helping with moving equipment. This will be decided and communicated the week of the designated competition.

Equipment & Supplies - See General Program Handbook

Membership Fees

Both parents and student will have opportunities to earn credit (through fundraising) towards fees and trips. Once a student has been measured and assigned uniform/flags are purchased, they are responsible for their fees whether they continue with the program or not. If a student quits in the middle of the season without paying their fees, they will be turned in at the end of the school year to their school administration. This will become a school fee.

WINTER COUGARETTES FEES

Please make all checks payable to YCHS Bands

Winter Guard Fees

\$325

One-time purchases:

Logo T-Shirt	Approx. \$16 <i>*Required</i>
Show Shirt	Approx. \$18 <i>*Optional</i>
Flag Bag	\$32 (buy from us) <i>*Optional</i>
Gym Bag	Purchase from online store <i>*Optional</i>
Gloves	\$18/pair
Undergarments	Purchase on your own at local retailers depending on your rehearsal and costume needs <i>*Required</i>

Seasonal

Makeup	TBA – instruction will be given
Hair supplies	Various (bobby pins, gel, hair spray, etc)

Parent Meeting

There will be a MANDATORY Winter Guard Parent Meeting late November/early December. All selected member should have at least one parent in attendance. This meeting is for all new and returning member's parents.

PARENT HANDBOOK

WHAT IS A BAND/COUGARETTES PARENT?

YOU! A BAND PARENT IS ONE WHO IS WILLING TO INVEST TIME IN THEIR CHILD...

This starts your time investment as you listen to hours of monotonous scales or watch flag spins. Somehow, in September you will notice a new young adult who bears a slight resemblance to the child you remember marching onto the field in a strange costume. On this day, you will accept the investment of time and money as worthwhile, as you and your child will be rich with memories and you will recognize the growth in your child.

HOW PARENTS CAN HELP?

AT HOME:

- ✓ Show an interest in the music study of your child.
- ✓ Arrange a regular time for him/her to practice (a quiet place with no interruptions)
- ✓ Help the student keep a daily record of his practicing.
- ✓ Give him/her a safe place in which to keep the instrument.
- ✓ Keep the instrument in good repair with reeds, etc., in the case.
- ✓ Help him/her to be early for rehearsals and lessons.
- ✓ Make faithful attendance at all activities important.
- ✓ Encourage him/her to play for others when opportunities arise, in the home, at school, church and in the community.
- ✓ Double-check behind your student
- ✓ Check email, web page, and or Facebook page updates daily
- ✓ Donating food or other items

Meals During School

- As any athlete should, all MB students are expected to eat a breakfast and a "GOOD" lunch once school begins on days they have after school rehearsal
 - Students should eat school lunch or bring their own "camp-like" lunch
 - A "vending machine" lunch will NOT suffice

Dressing out for Class (at YCHS)

- Winds and percussion students (1st & 3rd Block) should bring "dress out" clothes for band class each day.
 - These should be regular camp clothes.
 - Battery will dress out almost every day
 - Front and winds will dress out as needed for class
 - **REQUIRED** – Athletic shoes are required EVERY DAY for class
- All Cougarettes students (4th Block) should bring "dress out" clothes for class each day.

AT SCHOOL:

- ✓ Notify the teacher if he/she is to be absent or tardy for lesson, rehearsals, etc., and explain why in writing.
- ✓ **Do not "hang out" in the band room before or after events unless you are on the Chaperone/Equipment list for that particular event. Many things are taking place with 100 + bodies in a small space.**
- ✓ See that he/she takes the instrument and the music when needed at school and brings it home for individual practice.
- ✓ See that he/she stays current with classroom studies and makes up work he/she has missed.
- ✓ Visit rehearsals often
- ✓ Discuss with Band Directors anything that will help them to understand your child.
- ✓ **Attend performances and parent meetings whenever possible.**
- ✓ Help with parent activities, such as fundraisers.
- ✓ Assure that all Student dues are current.
- ✓ Provide private instruction

Student Pick-up/Parking after Rehearsals

- Student Drivers
 - Will leave their car in the student parking lot from in the morning, OR will pull unto the band parking lot and park on the "perimeter" parking spaces of the lot
- Parent Pick-Up
 - Pick-up in the band practice lot
 - **Please pull into a parking space to wait for your student.**

- DO NOT create a “pick-up” loop in the band practice lot, which blocks people that are already parked and ready to leave.
- Enter Cat Scratch Alley from Lincoln Rd.
- Stay on the bus loop until you get to the WIDE side entrance of the band practice lot on the left
- Pull into a parking space

- **DO NOT wait for your student on the bus loop**

8th Grade Members Arriving at the High School for after school Rehearsal

- Our 8th grade marching band members will need to ride one of the shuttle buses on days that we have after school rehearsals and games
 - Students will be notified of bus numbers
 - 8th grade members can arrive already dressed out for rehearsal or dress immediately upon arriving to the high school

VOLUNTEER APPLICATION – YSD₁

<https://bib.com/SECUREVOLUNTEER/York-County-School-District-One/>

PARENT/ADULT CREW UNIFORM SHIRTS

Crew can be defined as parents/adults signed up, verified, and listed on the equipment crew, pit crew, prop crew, or chaperones.

While wearing this shirt, you are constantly being observed. Your personal appearance and your actions represent not only you, but also our band, school and community. You will be responsible for the care and maintenance of this shirt while it is in your possession.

- The band will keep a supply/stock of these shirts. If additional shirts are needed per year they will be ordered ONE time for the listed crew.
- The shirt be kept clean and be washed regularly.
- Crew shirt will be issued each year much like our marching band uniform and will only be replaced due to severe wear and tear and/or poor cleaning.
- The Crew shirts are property of YCHS Bands. They should be returned after each season clean.
- Crew members on the crew list may elect to purchase the crew shirt at \$26 new/\$16 used.
- Only listed crew members will be issued a crew shirt or have the ability to purchase this shirt.
- Adults owning these shirts should ONLY wear them when on duty with the band.

CHAPERONE GUIDELINES

The purpose of these guidelines is to provide chaperones with information regarding their responsibilities and duties in the supervision of band students before, during, and after athletic events, band contests, or any activity where chaperones are necessary.

All chaperones MUST be on the YSD₁ Approved Volunteer List. All competition & game chaperones must be physically fit and able to distance walk, carry props, and/or jog/run to help a students or retrieve forgotten items.

I. The major roles of chaperones are to insure the safety and well-being of all members of the band, as well as monitoring student behavior to maintain decorum and professionalism throughout. It is virtually impossible to anticipate all situations that might endanger the students; however, chaperones are encouraged to be watchful and to quickly address any situations that might be hazardous.

II. All rules of York Comprehensive High School AND special rules of the York Comprehensive High School Band apply to ALL students on ALL band activities. Chaperones should familiarize themselves with these rules and report any infractions to the band director for appropriate disciplinary action.

III. Illness and injury, although infrequent, are always a possibility, and chaperones should be aware of procedures for dealing with emergency situations.

- A. Keep all other students away from the sick or injured.
- B. Administer first aid; know the location of the first aid kit (buses)
- C. Notify the band directors and/or other school officials.
- D. Notify the EMS/Rescue Squad or doctor if needed.

IV. Chaperones should:

A. Pre-trip:

1. Arrive at the band room at the same time as band students. Times will vary depending on the location of the event however, all times will be given to chaperones prior to the event.
2. Help gather all students to the band room at the meeting time.
3. Help with uniforms and loading equipment; help to make sure all equipment, supplies, uniforms, etc., are loaded.
4. Make sure that the first aid bags, and coolers are carried to the stadium or are loaded onto the buses for away events.
5. Get schedule of events/itinerary from the band directors.
6. Inspect buses for damage before students are loaded. Report damage to the bus driver PRIOR to departure.
7. Inspect buses again at the end of the trip.

B. On Buses:

1. Check the roll as soon as students load the buses
2. Make sure students remain seated.
3. Make sure driver's instructions are followed.
4. In case of a problem, have driver signal other buses and/or call directors on cell phones.
5. Personal Electronic Devices with headphones are permitted, but NO external speakers are allowed.
6. Chaperones should be seated in the middle and back of the bus. Any directors or staff members will need to sit in the front of the bus.
7. Always keep students seated on buses until the directors come to get them off of the bus.

Behavior on Buses

- A. Seated the entire trip. Students WILL NOT move around the bus.
- B. You may move a student if they are a behavior problem.

C. At Events:

1. Be especially watchful at events which occur away from home. Encourage students to use the buddy system.
2. Escort students to bathrooms or dressing rooms as instructed by the band director.
3. Follow the band in and help with students, equipment, uniforms, personal student items, etc. as needed
4. Meet the band when they come off of the field at the end of a performance. Assist them with water, illness, etc., and escort them to the buses, dressing rooms, stands, etc., as instructed by the band director.
5. NO food or drink is allowed in the stands while the band is "ON DUTY".
6. Assist with serving water to students during game and after half-time performances. Also, assist with serving food to students at contests if applicable.
7. Students are allowed to go to the bathroom ONLY with a chaperone present. Bathroom visits should be limited to before an event, during half-time or break, and at the end of an event. Unless it is an emergency, there should be NO bathroom visits during other times.
8. Chaperones should sit around the band's block during the game.
9. Assist director(s) in keeping students in their block and exhibiting proper behavior while the band is "ON DUTY." NO visitors should sit with the band. Students may stand but should not venture from their seat. ALL students should stand and actively participate when the band plays.
10. Assist director in making sure that all students are in proper portions of the band uniform as instructed by the directors.

Behavior at Events

- a. Students are to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times.
- b. NO LOUD TALKING
- c. Students will move quickly and quietly in an orderly fashion when they get off of the bus
- d. Directors/Staff will give instructions about getting off of the bus. Please help hold all students accountable to these instructions.

d. Post-trip:

1. Make sure all equipment and students are loaded before leaving.
2. Once home, inspect buses for damage and left items.
3. Watch as students call for rides, unload equipment, and leave for home.
4. Help secure equipment in proper places.
5. Return Roll/Sign-Out Sheets to the directors upon arrival home.

V. YCHS Band Chaperone Expectations:

- A. All actions and words should reflect positively on our band and school.
- B. NO public displays of affection
- C. No profanity or vulgar language, including vulgar cheers
- D. Chaperones must be VERY knowledgeable on the YCHS Band Handbook and all of the expectations for students. Chaperones are expected to help hold students accountable for all expectations. Blatant disregard for expectations, participating in the spread of inaccurate information (or rumors/drama), or insubordination will result in being removed from band chaperone lists.
- E. No smoking allowed as per school rules on buses or at events.
- F. Chaperones should conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times.

VI. In Case of Misbehavior:

- A. Note student's name and behavior.
- B. Keep confrontations to a minimum.
- C. STOP ALL INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR. You are expected to call students down if necessary. Students should obey chaperones as they do other school officials.

VII. Large groups of young people have several characteristics in common. They are noisy, excitable, and often guilty of poor judgment. Chaperones need to have patience, love for young people, and a good sense of humor. Thank you for your willingness to serve our children.

Chaperone/Pit Crew Checklist before bus leaves for Contests

1. Food/Water Coolers filled & loaded
2. First Aid Kits
3. Instruments Loaded
4. All Chaperones have Band Badges on

CHAPERONE SELECTION FOR LARGE SCALE TRIPS

Parents must apply to be considered for chaperoning our large scale trips every other year.

Priority in selection of chaperones will be granted respecting the following criteria (in no order):

- Prior chaperoning experience with the band.
- Specific jobs and responsibilities to be performed/needed on the trip (medical, loading, district employee).
- Student/Parent in good financial status with the band.
- Chaperone must be in good physical shape (able to stand/walk for prolonged periods of time).
- Upperclassmen parents (preferred, but not limited to - if necessary to meet other selection criteria).
- Chaperone deposit/fees paid in full by due date.
- Housing requirements (# of male & female chaperones and room requirements).
- Must hold a good upstanding social and financial status/relationship with directors, students, teachers, and school administrators.
- Housing requirements (# of male & female chaperones and room requirements).

AUDIENCE ETIQUETTE

Marching shows have become more complex. Many bands have become competitive, whereas only a few were 15 or 20 years ago. The support for the activity is beginning to rival major sports. Some spectators may be guilty of being inconsiderate to the performing bands and other spectators. Most of the time, this occurs only because people are not aware of the etiquette of marching competitions or concerts. Because of this, we have outlined a few things you should and shouldn't do...

DO

- ✓ **Support ALL bands & students.** The students, staff, and directors on the field have worked incredibly hard to perform for you – just as our students, staff, and directors.

- ✓ **Observe the whole show or concert.** By this we mean watch different elements. Your interest may be percussion, but you might be surprised with the rifle work the guard is doing, too. Often several things are going on at once in a given performance and you may watch the same show several times and see something new on each occasion.
- ✓ **Respect others.** Please be courteous and applaud at the end of solos, major drill moves and at the end of musical selections. Also, don't be afraid to tell a band member or band parent from another band that they did a nice job, even if you don't know them. You would be surprised how good it makes someone feel if they are told that you liked their show.
- ✓ **Show up early.** The best seat in the stadium for a band contest is on or near the 50-yard line and as high up as you can get. Parents from the same band are encouraged to sit together to better rally support.

DON'T

- **Talk.** It is important to realize that although it is fun to socialize with friends and family during a contest, it is rather rude to make a lot of noise during any performance including marching band performances. To put this in perspective, you wouldn't normally openly discuss what kind of week you had with a friend at a theater during a movie. Marching band contests are no different. Granted, the venues are generally outside, but the sound of voices tends to travel pretty far in the fall air and it is disruptive to someone who may want to hear a particular performance. You might be surprised what you are missing if you paid attention to the performance on the field.
- **Move around.** NEVER get and leave or enter the stadium during a band's performance. Something else you should avoid is any unnecessary movement during performances. This includes, getting up to run to the refreshment stand or the restroom during a performance. There is time for that in between every performance and each show is only about 8 minutes long.
- **Get wrapped up in the term "competition."** For what it is worth, most band members call contests "shows," because that is what they are. Scores are pretty arbitrary and can vary quite a bit from show to show. The bottom line is that everyone in every band is literally trying to perform to the best of their ability and each ensemble has something to offer the spectator. Everyone loves to win, but if the main purpose of a band becomes winning every show, they are missing the point.
- **Make negative comments about other bands.** For instance, if you don't like a particular band's uniform, be happy in the fact that you don't have to wear it and move on with your life. We all may have sat in the audience at many shows and listened to people make derogatory comments about other bands. If you have nothing nice to say, please be quiet. You never know who could be sitting close by.
- **Obstruct the view of others.** Please avoid standing in front of people trying to watch the show. If you have a banner you wish to display, please do so from the top of the stands or in some other fashion that doesn't block the field of vision of the other spectators.
- **Boo other bands or the judges.** We all have been at shows where you did not agree with the results, but unfortunately, those things happen from time to time.

Area Band Instrument Repair Shops

Spartanburg – Roper Music

Charlotte - Sam Ash

Rock Hill - Grobusky Music

Pecknel Music Company

Upgrade instruments with these recommended dealers:

Before upgrading seek guidance from www.yorkcougarbands.com, Mr. Brooks, or Mrs. Brooks.

- Roper Music
- Muncy Winds
- Cascio Interstate Music
- Woodwind-Brasswind
- Pecknel Music



POLICY & CONDUCT CONTRACT

As a student enrolled in the YSD1, I understand that participation in the band program is a privilege. I also understand that as a team member/student performer I am expected to comply with the expectations set forth in York Comprehensive High School Band Handbook and YSD1 Student Handbook. I understand that if I violate these codes of conduct or any other YSD1 regulation I may be subject to discipline including, but not limited to exclusion from related activities and performances, suspension and/or expulsion consistent with law regulations and/or board policy. By signing this contract, I understand the expectations and agree to abide by and uphold regulations for good sportsmanship and all financial responsibilities and membership my entail.

STUDENT SIGNATURE

DATE

As the parent /guardian of the student listed above, I understand that participation in the band program is a privilege that may be revoked if a student does not comply with the expectations and regulations defined in the York Comprehensive High School Band Handbook and YSD1 Student Handbook. I understand that if my student violates these codes of conduct and or team expectations may be subject to discipline including, but not limited to exclusion from related activities and performances, suspension and/or expulsion consistent with law regulations and/or board policy. By signing this contract, I understand the expectations and agree to abide by and uphold regulations for good sportsmanship and all financial responsibilities and membership my entail.

PARENT/GUARDIAN

DATE

Date of Issue: May 2nd 2019