

# **2018-19 BIP**

## **Webster Groves High School Band Information Packet**

**In order to have a successful experience in the WGHS band program, all instrumental music students and their parents are strongly encouraged to read and become familiar with the information in this packet. Please ensure you complete the parent information form on the [wgbands.org](http://wgbands.org) website where you can click to confirm that you have completed this requirement before Sept. 4th**

**Please retain the BIP as a reference guide for the 2018-2019 school year.**

**The last page should be signed and returned by August 17th.**

**Webster Groves High School 100 Selma Avenue Webster Groves  
Missouri, 63119**

### **Dane Williams**

Phone: 314-918-4051 Email: [williams.dane@wgmail.org](mailto:williams.dane@wgmail.org) Jill Young

Phone: 314-918-4033 Email: [young.jill@wgmail.org](mailto:young.jill@wgmail.org) Kevin Cole

Phone: 314-918-4053 Email: [cole.kevin@wgmail.org](mailto:cole.kevin@wgmail.org)

Band website with calendar, announcements and additional helpful information is available at [wgbands.org](http://wgbands.org).



# 1. Classes and Ensembles

Credit: 1 unit Prerequisite: Audition Open to Grade: 9-12

Band is a year long course which provides serious musicians a wide variety of musical opportunities.

Within the band program are many different classes and ensembles. In order to participate students must audition to be accepted. Please click on the following link to see information about the musical opportunities that are available:

## 2. Audition & Chair/Ensemble Placement Procedures

### WIND SYMPHONY AND SYMPHONIC BAND

In the fall of each year, usually in September or October, students will audition for chair and ensemble placement within the Wind Symphony or Symphonic Band. The audition consists of various musical and technical excerpts, scales, and sight-reading. Failure to audition will result in a lowered grade and after school detention assignment until placement audition is completed. \*

### JAZZ BAND

Jazz I auditions will be held the last week of May, and Jazz II/III auditions will take place in September. An announcement will be made prior to the audition.\* The audition consists of various musical and technical excerpts, scales, and sight-reading. In addition to Jazz II/III placement, musicians may have the option of joining/forming a combo.

**During the course of the year, chair placement and ensemble placement may change based on various factors such as student performance on tests, attendance at performances and rehearsals, or behavior.**

## 3. School-Owned Instruments

Students are expected to provide their own instrument for use in band. In some circumstances, the school may issue an instrument to a student based on need as determined by the school administration.

The school owns a limited number of instruments. WGHS does not own flutes, clarinets, alto saxophones, trumpets, or tenor trombones. WGHS does own percussion equipment, low brass, and low woodwinds.

Students issued a school instrument are held personally and financially responsible for that instrument. It is their responsibility to take care of the instrument properly and return the instrument in good, working condition. Any damage resulting from misuse or neglect will be responsibility of the student and he or she will be expected to pay for all repairs.

If the instrument is lost or damaged beyond the possibility of repair, the student will be financially responsible for replacing the instrument with another of the same make, model, style, and finish at current replacement costs.

General maintenance and repair will be handled by the school district. If a school instrument is not working properly, a student **MUST NOT** take it to be repaired; he or she should inform the director(s) so the problem may be corrected.

**Students using a school-owned instrument are required to pay a \$40.00 maintenance fee. This is due September 15, 2015.**

#### **4. Grading Policy A student's academic grade is determined by grades in the following THREE areas:**

A. Performance Grade- Attendance and participation at performances is MANDATORY: An unexcused absence from a performance may result in failure and/or dismissal from band.\* This portion of your grade is based on the following criteria:

1. Be on time for warm-up
2. Be prepared including instrument, reeds, music and proper uniform
3. Effort and positive participation
4. Be a good audience member while others are on stage
5. Stay for the entire performance

#### **B. Daily Participation Grades**

1. Bring instrument, music, and pencil to class each day
2. Be prepared for class by practicing at home daily
3. Effort and positive participation
4. Be there on time and be ready to play when class starts every day

C. Test/Quiz Grades – You will have both playing and written tests that measure your knowledge and skills in:

1. Tone quality/ Intonation
2. Embouchure
3. Note reading
4. Proper fingering (Sticking for percussion)
5. Breathing
6. Rhythmic accuracy
7. Articulation
8. Playing position
9. Musical terms
10. Tempo/pulse
11. Marching fundamentals and drill execution

\* Determination of whether an absence is excused or unexcused is at the discretion of band directors.

## **5. Rehearsal/Performance Information**

Please click on the calendar tab at [wgbands.org](http://wgbands.org) to see all performances and rehearsals associated with the instrumental music program. **PERFORMANCES ARE COURSE EXAMINATIONS. FAILURE TO ATTEND A PERFORMANCE WILL IMPACT THE STUDENTS GRADE.** Band members are expected to be present at all performances and rehearsals. Conflicts should always be reported to the director(s) at least 1 month in advance so that a suitable solution can be arranged, if possible. Students missing a performance/rehearsal for any reason must complete the attached absentee form. The form may also be accessed on the website.

The performance and rehearsal schedule for each academic year is usually published in May of the preceding year with minor revisions occurring as the year progresses. However, additional rehearsals are scheduled according to the ensemble's performing commitments. Students will be notified with adequate time to accommodate these additional rehearsals.

### **SUMMER BAND REHEARSALS:**

Summer band rehearsals are an important part of the school year for our program and they are considered part of the course expectations. Attendance is required of all students participating in the marching band.

We have some flexibility with our June /July rehearsals and 4th of July parade. We highly recommend the June /July rehearsals and 4th of July parade for incoming 9th graders as a way to gain a strong foundation. August rehearsals are extremely important to the success of our program. Everyone should make every effort to participate in all rehearsals. Students that have too many conflicts should strongly consider signing up for In-Door Band.

### **MARCHING BAND**

The Webster Groves Marching Statesmen exists to provide school spirit and entertainment for our school community at home football games. The band will remain in uniform the entire game. Water will be provided in our area. Students should eat prior to arrival. The Webster Groves band department has had many opportunities to travel and perform locally, nationally, and internationally. Since our school and community provide us with these enriching opportunities, we take seriously our responsibility to do our best for the community of Webster Groves. When in uniform, members represent WGHS and must do so with dignity, pride and integrity.

### **WIND ENSEMBLE AND SYMPHONIC BAND**

Band members should arrive early for performances. When not on stage all members are to be seated in the audience. Band students will model appropriate behavior for a performance setting. All band members must attend the entire performance.

Performance Dates:

Thursday, December 6th at 7 pm

Thursday, February 21 at 7 pm

Tuesday, April 30 at 7 pm

## 6. Behavior Policy

General conduct, behavior, and discipline are outlined in the Webster Groves High School Student Handbook. Students are expected to follow the handbook guidelines in band class and anytime students are participating in a school function, on or off campus. Below are some specific guidelines for the band program.

1. The band room and practice rooms are here for the band members to use. Students should keep our area clean by picking up after themselves. 2. Students may not chew gum in the band room or on the practice field during class sessions. 3. All students should take special care to see that the instruments and equipment in the band rooms are not damaged. Together we must take pride in caring for our area and equipment.

## 7. Out-of-Town Travel Policies

The Webster Groves High School Student handbook lists policies and guidelines for being eligible to participate in interscholastic activities, athletic and non-athletic. The band department will adhere to these policies for all out-of-town trips. Students must be eligible for the semester in which the trip will occur. Failure to do so will jeopardize his/her opportunity to participate on the trip. It is the student's responsibility to maintain his/her eligibility so that he/she can participate on band trips.

If a student becomes ineligible in the semester in which the band trip occurs, moneys may be forfeited due to prepayment to out-of-school agencies. If the performance is part of the curriculum the student will also forfeit that portion of the performance grade. (refer to grading policy)

1. Students are expected to have satisfactory citizenship (behavior) in ALL classes during the quarter in which the trip will occur. Failure to do so will jeopardize his/her opportunity to participate on the trip.

2. Students must attend all performances and rehearsals during the course of the year.

Failure to do so will jeopardize his/her opportunity to participate on the trip.

3. Students must maintain a "C" average in band in order to be eligible for the trip.

4. Each student's trip must be paid in full by the appropriate time. Each student is responsible for earning the money for the trip through fund-raising activities or through personal contributions.

5. Students who have a record of disciplinary and behavior problems in the classroom or school will jeopardize their opportunity to go on the trip. These cases will be handled through consultation with appropriate principals, teachers, and the director(s)

6. Students will abide by all school rules while traveling with the band.

**Students will be given, prior to each trip, a list of behavioral expectations for the trip.**

## 8. Band Camp

Band camp is a great opportunity for students to work on new skills, meet lifelong friends, and learn responsibility/teamwork.

Payment for camp constitutes a commitment to the Marching Statesmen as well as Hannibal La-

Grange College, the transportation provider, the T-shirt company and drill designers. The fees are therefore non-refundable.

In our program we prove again and again that where there's a will, there's a way. If your family needs financial help with getting a youth to camp, please contact one of the band directors.

The out-of-town camp is staffed with additional marching and music staff, a registered nurse, and parent volunteer chaperones. Students stay in air-conditioned college dorms. We rehearse outside in the morning, late afternoon, and evening. During the most intense heat of the day we rehearse music in an air-conditioned music facility. The students' health and well-being is our greatest concern. We work hard to provide the very best environment to for students to prosper.

## **9. Uniforms**

Uniforms are an important visual aspect of our band. We will be judged, not only by our playing ability but also by our appearance. Do not let members outside of the band see your uniform partially assembled. This does an injustice to the overall impression we want to make in and outside of our community. Allow yourself the time to make yourself presentable. Never leave a uniform in a state of disrepair. When not in use store your uniform properly. If a competition or performance is an all day event, bring appropriate clothing to wear during non-performance time. Appearance outside of the performance is also important to our reputation.

Students are held personally and financially responsible for the uniform parts that are issued to them and they must return the uniform in good condition at the end of each season. If a student loses a uniform piece, notify a director immediately. Any damage to the uniform resulting from misuse or neglect will be the responsibility of the student and the student will be expected to pay for the repairs. If the uniform is lost or damaged beyond the possibility of repair, the student will be responsible for replacing the uniform or uniform part. Do not wash or dry any part of the uniform in a conventional washer or dryer as this will damage the uniform. Do not take the uniform to the dry cleaners. All uniforms are cleaned during the summer break. If a uniform becomes exceptionally dirty, the student should see a director.

### **MARCHING BAND SUMMER UNIFORM**

All students will wear:

1. Marching Band T-shirt
2. Khaki shorts
3. Athletic shoes (Logos and color are ok)
4. White socks

Additional details:

1. Long hair should be up and off the collar
2. No jewelry should be seen
3. Shoes and all other uniform parts should be clean for each performance.

### **MARCHING BAND / SYMPHONIC BAND/ WIND SYMPHONY**

The school will issue the following items to students:

1. Black marching pants
2. Marching band jacket
3. Garment bag w/ hanger
4. White dress shirt
5. Black necktie
6. Black berets (percussion and low brass)

Students will supply:

1. Black Shoes

Please click on the following link for information on where to obtain the Dinkles brand footwear:  
(URL to website link)

2. Black socks
3. Clean white T-shirt (To protect the inside of the uniform)

Additional details:

1. Long hair should be up, off the collar. (This is a safety issue while marching.)
2. No jewelry should be worn
3. Shoes and all other uniform parts should be clean for each performance
4. Uniform should be properly hung in garment bag at all times when not in use
5. Nothing else should be placed in the garment bag

## **10. Band Awards**

The band awards banquet is held each year in late April. All band students, parents, and siblings are invited to attend.

### **SENIOR AWARDS**

Each year 12th graders fill out a senior survey detailing what they have accomplished throughout their 4 years at Webster Groves High School. The survey includes descriptions of each of the following awards. Seniors complete an application if they would like to be considered for an award. The music staff selects each recipient after careful consideration.

1. John Phillip Sousa Award:

\$150.00 scholarship, non-renewable.



Marching Band performance, leadership and citizenship over 4 years

2. Louie Armstrong Award:

\$150.00 scholarship, non-renewable Jazz Band performance, leadership and citizenship over 4 years

3. Henry J. Lemke Memorial Scholarship:

\$150.00 scholarship, non-renewable Concert Band performance, leadership and citizenship over 4 year.

4. Catherine Warner Memorial scholarship:

\$250.00 scholarship, renewable for 4 years

5. Semper Fidelis:

Honorary award Directors select a student who has demonstrated a high degree of faithfulness to the music program, WGHS, and the Webster Groves school community.

## **11. Band Aides**

The Band Aides is the WGHS Band program parents support group. If you have a child in the band program, you are a Band Aide. We invite you to become involved with this fun group of people who is actively engaged in creating better outcomes for WGHS Bands.

For more information on how you can get involved, please click on the following link:

(Link to the Band Aides webpage)

## **12. Fundraising**

Webster Groves school district believes there is considerable educational value in taking field trips. However, it is the individual student's responsibility to raise the funds necessary to take the trip.

During the course of the school year, the Band Aides offers many opportunities for students and their families to participate in fundraising projects in order to help them raise the money needed to pay for specific activities.

**There are two funds that fundraising money goes into:**

General fund – used to purchase instruments and music, pay for band social events, and other general band expenditures that the Band Aides help with

Student Accounts – money that is earned by a student and their family through participation in the many fundraisers we offer. This is used by the student to pay for things like band camp and band trips, band jackets, band T-shirts, and band shoes (Dinkles). A band director and the treasurer must approve each student's request prior to any funds promised or disbursed from his or her account.

Please detach and return this signature form by Friday, August 17th. **25 points extra credit will be given to those who turn in this form on or before the first day of school.**

By signing this sheet you are acknowledging that you have read and understand the information received in the BIP packet for 2018 - 2019 and agree to fulfill your duties as a WGHS band member/parent to the best of your ability.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



