

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP
HIGH SCHOOL**

**MINUTEMEN
MARCHING BAND**

***COLORGUARD HANDBOOK
2009-2010***

EFFECTIVE JULY 1ST, 2009

MINUTEMEN MARCHING BAND COLORGUARD HANDBOOK

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SUMMER SCHEDULE

July 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 <i>(Consult separate flier for Carnival section assignments)</i>	6 Carnival 6-10 p.m.	7 Carnival 6-10 p.m. *Family Night*	8 Carnival 6-10 p.m. *Family Night*	9 Carnival 6-10 p.m. *Family Night*	10 Carnival 6-10 p.m.	11 Carnival 6-10 p.m.
12	13	14 Colorguard and Percussion Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m.	15 Full Band Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m. *Handbook & Health Form Due* *Cinnamon FR begins*	16	17	18
19	20	21 Colorguard, Percussion and Sectionals Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m.	22 Full Band Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m.	23	24	25
26	27	28 Colorguard, Percussion & Sectionals Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m.	29 Full Band Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m. *Cinnamon FR due*	30	31	8/1

August 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	3	4 Full Band Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m. *Final Band Camp Payment Due*	5 *No Rehearsal* TNT – Tailgating Night for Taylor in WLP (optional)	6	7	8
9	10	11 Colorguard, Percussion & Sectionals Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m.	12 Full Band Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m. *Band Camp Parent Mtg. - 8:30 p.m.*	13	14	15
16	17	18 Mini-Camp @ WTHS 12 – 9 p.m. *Fall Absence requests due* *ETC FR Begins*	19 Mini-Camp @ WTHS 12 – 9 p.m. *Cabin/Bus sign-ups*	20 Mini-Camp @ WTHS 12 – 9 p.m.	21	22 <u>Band Camp 2009</u> 8 a.m.-Noon @ WTHS Noon- BBQ 1 p.m. Depart for Camp Saginaw, PA
23 Band Camp @ Camp Saginaw	24 Band Camp @ Camp Saginaw	25 Band Camp @ Camp Saginaw	26 Band Camp @ Camp Saginaw *Return 5 p.m.*	27	28	29

FALL SCHEDULE

September 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8/30	8/31	1 POST CAMP Rehearsal 3-9 p.m.	2 POST CAMP Rehearsal 3-9 p.m.	3	4	5
6	7 <i>Labor Day</i>	8 <i>*First Day of School*</i> Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m. <i>*Catalog FR begins*</i>	9 Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m.	10 Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m.	11 Report- 5 p.m. Football HOME Winslow 7 p.m.	12 Band Car Wash 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
13	14	15 Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m.	16 Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m.	17 Report- 4:30 p.m. Football AWAY CH West 7 p.m.	18	19 Rehearsal- TBA Competition @ Collingswood
20	21	22 Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m. <i>*Catalog FR ends*</i>	23	24 Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m.	25 Report- 5 p.m. Football HOME Rancocas Valley 7 p.m.	26 Rehearsal- TBA Competition @ Mainland

October 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9/27	9/28	9/29 Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m.	9/30	1 Rehearsal 6:30-9:30 p.m. <i>*Back to School Night*</i> <i>Parent show @ 9:15 p.m.</i>	2 Report- 5 p.m. Football HOME Pennsauken 7 p.m.	3 Football @ Pennsauken 12 p.m. Competition @ Eastern HS
4	5	6 Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m. <i>*Food FR begins*</i>	7	8 Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m.	9	10 Rehearsal- TBA Delaware Valley Regional Competition @ Upper Darby HS
11	12 <i>Columbus Day- No School</i>	13 Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m.	14	15 Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m.	16 <i>*Homecoming 2009*</i> Report- 4 p.m. Spirit Parade- 6 p.m. Football HOME Cherokee 7 p.m. <i>*8th Gr. Band Night*</i>	17 Rehearsal- TBA Yamaha Cup @ Giants Stadium
18	19	20 Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m. <i>*Food FR ends*</i>	21	22 Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m. <i>*8th Grade Open House Performance*</i>	23	24
25 USSBA NJ State Championships @ WTHS	26	27 Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m.	28	29 Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m.	30	31 Report- 9 a.m. Football @ CH East 11 a.m.

November 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Competition USSBA Q Event @ Union HS (Tentative)	2	3 <i>Election Day- No School</i> Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m.	4 <i>No School</i>	5 <i>No School</i> Rehearsal 6:30-9:15 p.m.	6 <i>No School</i> Report- 5:30 p.m. Football HOME Triton 7 p.m.	7 USSBA NORTHERN STATES CHAMPIONSHIPS @ ALLENTOWN
8	9	10	11 <i>Veteran's Day- No School</i>	12 Recording Session & Picture Night 6:30-9:30 p.m.	13 Football Playoff Game- TBA	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 Football Playoff Game- TBA	21
22	23	24	25 <i>Half Day</i> Football HOME Eastern- 6 p.m. (Tentative)	26 <i>Thanksgiving</i>	27 <i>No School</i> Football HOME Eastern- 7 p.m. (Tentative)	28
29	30 Cotton Bowl Rehearsal* 6:30-8:30 pm	12/1	12/2	12/3	12/4 Football Championship Game - TBA	12/5

POST-SEASON 2009

*(*only students participating in the trip need to attend these events*)*

Mondays in December (12/7, 12/14, 12/21) – Cotton Bowl Rehearsals 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 12/30/09 – Depart for Cotton Bowl in Dallas, TX

Sunday, 1/3/10 – Return from Dallas, TX

Please note:

Consult the attendance policies listed in this handbook regarding absences for both the Summer and the Fall Schedule. Please read them thoroughly for further clarification on absences. Additionally, playoff games and the Thanksgiving game are a part of our regular schedule. The same attendance policy and procedures applies for these performances.

Listed on the schedule are possible rehearsals and tentative times on performance days. Specific times will be given for these days as soon as our competition times are finalized. That information will dictate our rehearsal and report times as well as return times. Please understand that depending on the particular competition, this may not occur until the week of. That information will be given out in the weekly “MINUTES” and/or posted on our website: www.wthsminutemenband.com

This schedule is subject to change with adequate notice

PHILOSOPHY

The art and activity of marching is one that combines quality music with an effective visual presentation. Through consistent and positive instruction, it is the goal of the staff to provide our students and audiences with both a highly competitive, yet equally entertaining marching band show. We want to teach students who want to learn. As one team of instructors, students and parents, we will always work **Together With Pride**.

CODE OF CONDUCT

All members of the marching band are expected to adhere to the code of conduct set forth in the Washington Township High School student handbook. In addition, all members of the marching band must adhere to the following conduct guidelines:

REHEARSAL CONDUCT

All members of the ensemble will be taught and given specific details as to proper etiquette during music rehearsal, basics block, sectionals and field rehearsals. The staff member in charge of the specific rehearsal will define the etiquette. There are 4 basic behaviors that are not tolerated in Marching Band that will always be in effect during all activities:

1. SWEARING
2. CHEWING GUM
3. OPEN DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION
4. DISRESPECT TOWARDS STAFF & FELLOW STUDENTS

UNIFORM CONDUCT

Please refer to the Uniform Procedures portion of this handbook for specific details on the care and maintenance of your uniform. The following is a list of behaviors that are NOT acceptable while you are in uniform. The reason for these strict guidelines is simply because when we are in uniform we are representing not only ourselves, but also *Washington Township High School*. Our conduct in the uniform is crucial to developing a strong sense of pride and uniformity in what we do:

1. "Rehearsal Conduct" as listed above
2. SITTING (without a raincoat)
3. SPITTING
4. RUNNING
5. SCREAMING

Eating or drinking while in uniform is also prohibited unless approved by the band director. You must wear your assigned raincoat when having anything other than water in order to protect the quality of our uniforms.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is very important for every member. The Colorguard is an extra curricular activity that is a critical component of the visual package of the marching band. Therefore, the director must approve all conflicts before they are considered to be excused. Please understand that any absence from the activity has a direct effect on the entire program. While we can never plan for illnesses, we must plan appointments and other business around the schedule. The following are explanations of the various types of absences:

1. Excused absences: These include, major family events (i.e. weddings), religious education classes and/or holidays, standardized tests (i.e. SATs), college visitations/placement exams and previously scheduled family business/vacation that cannot be changed. All notes should be placed in the absence box in the band room. Please include the specific reason as to why the student will be absent. Also, please be aware that submitting an absence request does not guarantee approval. In addition, e-mail or phone excuses will not be accepted for general absences. All potential excused absences for the **FALL SEASON** must be verified with a written note from your parents/guardians by **TUESDAY, AUGUST 18th, 2009.**

2. Emergency excused absences: These will be granted on a case-by-case basis. Such excuses include but are not limited to: illness or a death in the family. In this case, please notify the director **IMMEDIATELY** of the situation by phone at 589-8500 x7161 and/or by e-mail at ccorigliano@wtps.org.

3. Illness: If a student is absent from school due to illness, he/she will not be expected to attend rehearsal. **HOWEVER**, an e-mail or phone call to the director is expected from the student or parent in order to receive an excuse without penalty. If students are in school on the day of a rehearsal but become ill prior to rehearsal, a doctor's note will be needed to verify the absence upon return to school. Doctor's notes are also expected for all illnesses that will prevent the student from participating fully in the activity such as a physical injury.

4. Unexcused Absences- Rehearsals:

First Offense: Will result in a suspension from the next competition performance. Students are still required to attend that performance in full uniform.

Second Offense: Same as above including a staff / student parent conference.

Third Offense: Will be removed from the program and will not receive an end of the year participation award. Students are eligible to return for indoor & next season pending a student / parent conference with the band director and the colorguard director.

5. Unexcused Absences- Performances: Will result in a drop from the activity and the marching band program. The student will also forfeit his/her end of the year participation award.

6. Lateness: Students are expected to be "ready to rehearse" at the assigned rehearsal time. Students who arrive late will be noted. Excused lateness (no penalty) will be granted if a note with proper reasons is provided by the next school day. In addition, students who are late may also be asked to make up the time missed as determined by the director.

ADDITIONAL ATTENDANCE POLICIES

1. Students are encouraged to attend all summer rehearsals (July & August). We begin in July and August to teach and/or review basic elements of marching and playing. Therefore, the policy for summer attendance is as follows: if you are in town, you are expected to be at rehearsal; if you are on vacation or have another conflict; notes were to be submitted to the director prior to the end of the school year. For other emergency summer absences, please e-mail the director (ccorigliano@wtps.org) as soon as possible. You must be accounted for in order to receive a drill spot in the show (see audition policy). Please realize that excessive summer absences and/or absence from band camp could place you on “alternate status” where the student will need to make an extra commitment in order to earn a drill spot in the show. Such excessive absences can have an adverse effect on the rest of the team.
2. A student who misses a rehearsal during the week of a performance, whether excused or for illness, may or may not be allowed to perform on that upcoming weekend’s show(s). This rule is strictly to ensure the safety of your student and the safety of other students on the field. The band director will make a decision on the day of the performance in these situations. The student will still be required to attend the performance in full uniform if these situations occur.
3. Students who work are encouraged to provide their employer with a copy of the band schedule in order to avoid conflicts. Additional copies of the schedule will be provided by request and will be on the website. Students will not be excused from any performance to work. In an emergency, students may be excused from only ONE rehearsal to accommodate the conflict. In this circumstance, the director must be notified in advance as soon as possible.
4. Students who participate in winter sports or activities are expected to attend band performances at football playoff games should they coincide with a winter sport/activity. Coaches and advisors should make allowances for all students so that they may complete their commitment to the “fall” season of marching band.
5. Attendance records will be reviewed when students are being considered for awards, promotions within the band, recommendations and scholarships. Each year, all students will receive a participation award from the marching band program at the end of the year banquet. Failure to adhere to these attendance policies may result in a forfeiture of that award.
6. Students are at NO TIME permitted to leave the school grounds once a rehearsal or report time has started without the permission of the band director. This includes days when there is a rehearsal followed by a lunch or dinner break before departure for a performance. Students must bring everything they need for the day at the start of rehearsal.
7. Above all else, communicate with the director about potential absences and emergency absences. If possible, also notify the appropriate student leader/captain in your section so that you are accounted for. The director can be reached in the band room at 589-8500 x7161 or via e-mail at ccorigliano@wtps.org.

REHEARSALS

All students are required to wear sneakers to each rehearsal and to dress appropriately for the weather. We will experience a wide variety of weather conditions throughout the season, so it is your responsibility to be prepared for any possible weather. Marching Band is an outdoor activity and requires us to be outside during uncomfortable conditions at times (i.e. heat and humidity, cold weather, rain, etc.).

Additionally, students should come prepared to all rehearsals with **WATER**. Ample breaks for water will be given throughout each rehearsal and it is the student's responsibility to have this available to themselves during rehearsals.

It is important to note that marching band, by its nature, is a physical activity. There is a great demand placed on a student to be able to march and play a complete show. There needs to be some proper conditioning on the part of the student, in order to facilitate a strong personal performance and to prevent injury. Calisthenics, stretching and running will be advocated and supported at rehearsals. Students are always encouraged to stretch and warm-up their instrument and their bodies before rehearsing or performing.

As with any physical activity, injuries can and probably will affect a few students. Illness may also affect a student's ability to rehearse and perform. A doctor's note should always be obtained in the case of a physical injury. In this case of illness or injury, the proper attendance policies must be used to notify the director of an absence.

If a student falls ill or suffers a minor injury during a regular rehearsal, the student will be permitted to sit out for one rehearsal, and to take notes of that rehearsal. If the student is too ill, he or she may be permitted to go home by the director. If the student is not well by the next rehearsal or performance, it is requested the student stays home to get healthy and that the proper attendance procedures be followed. As with a variety of injuries, they will be handled on a case-by-case basis between the student, director and parent.

REHEARSAL ETIQUETTE

As we get into the rehearsals for the season, etiquette for various types of rehearsals will be clearly defined by the staff. It is expected that all members will adhere to the defined procedures. Failure to do so may affect their participation in the activity. Should a student demonstrate on a regular basis that he or she does not subscribe to the proper conduct at a rehearsal, the band director reserves the right to evaluate the student's performance, and to make a decision as to whether the student should perform in upcoming shows. The director also reserves the right to send such a student home from rehearsal and request a parent/student conference to determine future course of action.

It is the goal of the staff to provide a teaching atmosphere that is both positive and effective. As a student, please take the time to understand the rehearsal etiquette and speak to the individual instructors and/or director about such issues on a personal basis.

COLORGUARD UNIFORM PROCEDURES

While you are in uniform, you are constantly being observed. Your personal appearance and your actions represent not only you, but also your band, school and community. The uniform assigned to you is a valuable asset to the band. You will be responsible for its care and maintenance. If something needs to be fixed or adjusted on your uniform, simply report it to one of the uniform supervisors or the nearest staff member.

The desired goal is that the Washington Township High School Marching Band continues a tradition of excellence. The manner in which the band presents itself can leave either a positive or negative impression on its audience. The care of the uniform and the band member's behavior while wearing it, goes far toward creating pride and continuing tradition.

The specific uniform will be determined by the visual designer and the colorguard staff. This will likely require you to purchase portions or all of your uniform. Please discuss monetary concerns with the colorguard staff and the band director if a payment plan needs to be worked out. Additionally, please note that fundraiser money can not be utilized for the purchase of uniforms. We will do everything we can within our budget to offset these costs.

You will be assigned a raincoat. You will be responsible for wearing it whenever assigned, keeping it clean, and placing it where it belongs in the raincoat room or other designated area. Never leave items in your raincoat pockets.

All portions of your uniform, including shoes, are expected to be kept clean. This includes cleaning and/or polishing shoes, as well as regularly washing your uniform. Please do this at the discretion of the colorguard staff.

Hair should always be pinned up for the purpose of uniformity. Please follow the instructions of the colorguard staff as to their exact specifications.

NEVER wear any jewelry, including watches, earrings, and bracelets, while in uniform (from the time you put it on until the time you take it off). It is distracting to your audience and the visual judges by breaking uniformity of the ensemble.

A student in violation of any of the uniform procedures will not be permitted to perform, and/or will be considered unexcused from the performance.

You are to remain in full uniform from the time you leave the locker room until your return, unless otherwise directed by a staff member.

YOUR UNIFORM IS A SYMBOL OF DIGNITY, PRESTIGE AND STATURE.
WEAR IT PROUDLY!

COLORGUARD ROOM

The colorguard room is a separate locker room and storage area located in the back of the band room. This room is to be used exclusively for the storage of colorguard equipment including flags, rifles, and sabres. It is also to be used as a uniform storage room and changing room.

The following are guidelines that are expected to be followed with the use of this room:

- Students are expected to keep the colorguard room neat and clean at all times. It is every member's responsibility to insure that the equipment and uniforms are put away properly.
- Parent chaperones will be assigned to this area throughout the course of the season before and after performances to assist the students with equipment and uniforms. Students are expected to respect and follow the instructions of the parent chaperones.
- **NO ONE** other than the staff, parent chaperones and colorguard members are allowed in the colorguard room at any time. This includes OTHER BAND MEMBERS! Violators of this are expected to be reported immediately to the nearest staff member and the band director. This rule exists simply for the safety and security of our colorguard members and room.

Any student who does not follow these guidelines risks possible suspension from upcoming performances and in extreme cases removal from the program.

EQUIPMENT

Throughout the course of the season, students will be assigned to specific colorguard equipment. School owned equipment (flags, rifles, sabers, etc.) will be signed out and provided to all members. Equipment may not leave school grounds with the student until the proper paperwork has been signed and completed. It is the responsibility of every colorguard member to ensure the care and protection of this equipment just like a marching band musician would care for his/her own personal or school owned instrument. Repair to the equipment that is above normal "wear and tear" will be charged to the student just like a school book fine.

AUDITIONS

Workshops are held in the spring of every year to introduce students to the colorguard activity. Based on your performance you may be selected for a specific "dot" (position on the field) or as an "alternate" in the marching band. "Alternates" will be considered full members of the program and will be given the opportunity to shadow other members of the ensemble during rehearsal. "Alternates" can have the potential to take over or to "fill" an empty drill spot based on his/her ability and work ethic during rehearsals.

BUS PROCEDURES

1. Students will sign up for a bus prior to band camp. This will be the bus that the student will ride for the entire season. Any changes must be approved through the band director.
2. Students are to report ON TIME to their assigned bus in full uniform unless otherwise directed.
3. **Unless pre-approved or announced by the band director**, students are **NOT** allowed to bring the following on the bus: back packs, food and electronic devices (i-pods, cell phones, personal gaming devices, etc). These items will be confiscated and returned at the end of the trip. Your performance grade may also be affected in this case. Bottled water IS permitted but realize that we usually do not make pit stops so please plan accordingly.
4. Students are required to follow posted bus rules, as per Board of Ed. policies at all times.
5. Parent chaperones are responsible for taking attendance and are there to assist you and the staff. Treat them with respect at all times especially during roll call.
6. Students are to remain in their seat during the entire bus trip and are reminded to observe proper behavior especially if they are in uniform while riding on the bus.
7. All items and personal belongings are subject to search at any time by the staff. They have the right to confiscate any items until conclusion of the trip.

BINDER & DOT BOOKS

All students are required to obtain a 3-ring binder (at least 2") with plastic sheet protectors. This binder will keep each member organized, and will act as their reference for drill, and handbook procedures. The binder is required at **EVERY** rehearsal as part of your preparation. Plastic sheets are necessary in case of rain or humidity during a rehearsal, to protect the pages throughout the season. Each musician's binder should contain the following:

- Handbook
- Visual Guide
- Drill
- “Minutes”

Section Leaders will begin to check binders at the first full-band rehearsal on **July 16th**. Any items handed out after July 16th will need to be placed in the binder ASAP.

Students must also obtain a small notebook (usually index card sized) to use as a drill reference book. This book is called the “Dot Book,” and is usually carried at rehearsals around the neck by attaching a shoe lace or something similar. Students will receive further instruction on how to complete their dot books, and they will become a requirement at **EVERY** rehearsal once we begin learning drill.

LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

Workshops for leadership positions will be held during the months of April and May. Members of the color guard or band-proper who wish to be considered for the positions listed below should plan on attending these workshops in their entirety. Final interviews and selections will be made by the end of May. A student may be relieved of the appointed position if, in the opinion of the director, he/she is not performing his/her duties in a proper way. The director may elect to appoint another student to fill the position.

Duties and Responsibilities of Leadership Positions:

DRUM MAJORS: Serve as the student leaders of the band on and off the field; Responsible for individual and group performances; Represent the director and the staff with his/her leadership, showmanship, and teaching ability.

CAPTAINS (Woodwind, Brass, Percussion & Colorguard): Represent all members of those various sections; Responsible for reporting attendance to the secretary and drum majors; Serves as the liaisons between section leaders and drum majors; Oversee section leader responsibilities in their respective caption.

SECTION LEADERS (various instruments): Represent all members or their respective sections; Responsible for reporting attendance issues to their captains; Serves as the liaisons between section members and captains; Fully demonstrates proper rehearsal etiquette, technique and musicianship.

FIELD MANAGERS: Assist with the other section leaders and on the field as needed; Assist any members with marching or music as needed; Be available for any questions by students in any student; Promote a positive atmosphere at all times.

TRIPS

This is considered a trip year for the Minutemen Marching Band. We also attend band camp which is an overnight trip that kicks off the season. Here is some specific information:

BAND CAMP 2009: This is an opportunity for all members to learn the marching band show for the season while building teamwork and comradery between all members. This year's camp will be structured similarly to the past. We will first be holding a mini-camp here on the high school grounds with the explicit intent of beginning to learn drill for the fall show. We will then depart for Camp Saginaw for five days and four nights with the intent to complete the entire show. There will be opportunities for recreational time during both portions of the band camp with the intent to further bond with members of the program. Specific details about band camp and cost will be issued during the summer rehearsal season. Please consult the schedule for fee payment schedules, meetings and specific dates for all band camp activities. In addition, we will begin the fundraising process at the first summer rehearsal in order to help offset the cost of band camp for each student.

AT&T COTTON BOWL, DALLAS, TX: This is an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to perform at an NCAA Division I Bowl Game. The Cotton Bowl in Dallas will feature a field show competition, a parade and participation in the halftime show for the actual Cotton Bowl game. Specific information about the trip including itinerary, costs and other arrangements will be provided by sometime in late July.

FUND-RAISING

Fundraisers are planned throughout the year with activities such as a band trip or band camp in mind. It is always to the student's benefit to make a concerted effort to raise money for these activities. The fund-raising schedule will be issued over the summer and the director will announce any changes.

Students should remember that they receive the total individual profit from their personal sales. The director and/or band treasurer keeps an itemized account of each member's credit. Accounts are brought forth each year pending continued membership. This money is to be raised for and **MUST** be used toward band activities only. In accordance with school policy, no funds will be refunded or transferred from one student or school account to another, except in the case of two or more members within a single family, and within the same organization. Such requests must be made in writing to the director.

ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURES

At times, there will be the need for additional expenditures to be placed on the responsibility of the parents and students. These will include items such as colorguard shoes and gloves. Both of these items can be purchased through the band director when the information for band camp is distributed. Other, more personal uniform items such as underwear, socks, thermal underwear, colorguard unitards, etc. are the responsibility of the individual students and parents to receive on their own.

The staff may require of each student to maintain a notebook or three ring binder filled with the following items: plastic sheet protectors, drill charts, and handouts. It is also required that students bring a pencil to every rehearsal in order to take notes. This will be further defined by the staff as we go through the summer season.

Unfortunately, money raised through fund-raisers is not allowed to be used for these items. Please budget accordingly when information and prices are announced. We can be sympathetic to households with tight budgets, but your needs must be communicated with the band director so that a payment plan or some other alternative solution is reached.

SPRING COMMITMENTS

As of this writing, there is one “spring” commitment currently scheduled. This is the annual Super Saturday parade which will be on **Saturday, May 8, 2010**. This is a required commitment of all band members. There will also be one rehearsal in preparation for this event on **Thursday, May 6, 2010** from **6:30-8:30 p.m.** Please mark these dates in your calendar now! Any changes to these dates will be announced in the early Spring.

Additional performances may come our way throughout the rest of the school year. If such an instance occurs, students will be given ample notice about the performance and a deadline to submit absence excuses. Previously scheduled personal commitments will be honored in this case as long as the deadlines are adhered to.

PARENT SUPPORT and RESPONSIBILITIES

The participation of your student in this program will hopefully prove to be not only rewarding for your student but for you the parents and guardians as well. Please help us in establishing the proper attitude toward music at home. Also, support what your child is doing by attending regular performances of the band and encouraging your son or daughter to practice at home.

The band booster organization is another great way to get involved with your child’s activity. Their purpose is to boost the overall band program through fund-raising and other means of support so that our students can have the best experience possible in this activity. Please see a member of the executive board of the booster organization for more information about meetings and membership.

If at any point you have a concern about any aspect of the program, please communicate with the director. Our staff has been selected on their qualifications to do the job asked of them and share many years of “field” experience between them. Immediate communication with the director is KEY in solving any student to staff issues that may occur during the season.

DIRECTOR'S INFO

Please feel free to contact us at any point during the season to discuss any concerns or questions you may have. We personally believe that communication between parents, students and the directors is crucial to the success of the program.

Director - Casey Corigliano
Phone: 589-8500 x7161
E-mail: ccorigliano@wtps.org

Assistant Director - Shannon Schoch
Phone: 589-8500 x9256
E-mail: sschoch@wtps.org

In addition, this handbook along with most of our other information will be posted on our website (www.wthsmintemenband.com). Please continue to check it frequently for updates about the schedule and the program.

CONFIRMATION OF STUDENT HANDBOOK

Please read through the contents of this handbook very carefully. Questions regarding any of this material should be directed to Mr. Corigliano at 589-8500 x7161, or by e-mail at ccorigliano@wtps.org.

If there are no questions and you agree to the contents of this handbook, please read and sign the statement below. This contract is due by **Wednesday, July 15th, 2009**.

STUDENT STATEMENT

I hereby certify that I, _____ have read and understand the contents of this handbook. I recognize and fully understand the rules and regulations by which I may participate, and I am prepared to accept the consequences for any violation of them.

In an effort to promote our students and our activities, we may post pictures or performances of the band on our website or other media. I acknowledge that my picture may be available for public access as a member of the Washington Township High School Minutemen Band.

Student Signature

Date

Are you 18? (Y/N)_____

If yes, birthdate is:_____

PARENT/GUARDIAN STATEMENT

I hereby certify that I have read and understand the contents of this handbook. I recognize and understand the rules and regulations by which my child may participate, and I acknowledge that he/she will have to face the consequences of violating the contents of this handbook.

In an effort to promote our students and our activities, we may post pictures or performances of the band on our website or other media. I acknowledge that my son or daughter's picture may be available for public access as a member of the Washington Township High School Minutemen Band.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

This form must be returned by July 15th, 2009