



That Wylie
Band
2014-2015
Handbook
Wylie High School

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This is your life! Welcome to it.

The 2014-15 edition of That Wylie Band Handbook is intended to give all readers an idea of what being a member of That Wylie Band is really like: what to do, what to expect, what to look forward to, what to look out for, and most important - how to be a successful and contributing member of the greatest organization anywhere. As a member of That Wylie Band, a student can look forward to a positive, rewarding, exciting, enjoyable, and hard-working experience. The most successful member of That Wylie Band is one who loves to excel and understands the commitment required to do so.

Family

A student in That Wylie Band is actively involved with a large group of bright, talented, hard-working, dedicated people committed to the same goal; this makes the band a very positive peer group. The band actually becomes a second family to its members. Even though the families of Wylie Band students tend to be loving, nurturing ones, having an additional “family” like the Wylie Band can provide countless positive skills that can be used for a lifetime. Parents of Wylie Band students immediately become a vital part of this second family. Parents work together, get involved with the band and become the most enthusiastic fans. Through the years, many parents have commented that involvement with the Wylie Band has brought their family closer, because they spent more time with their child and experienced so much together.

Academic Excellence

Being a member of That Wylie Band encourages academic excellence and promotes greater self-discipline. The No-Pass, No-Play rule is a great tool in motivating students to set high academic standards. Band members will naturally want to participate in the activities of the band and spend time with fellow band members; a student who fails to keep grades up misses out on so much. Students soon learn that maintaining good grades in all academic classes must be the priority. In order to keep up with the extra rehearsal hours and achieve high grades, students must use other hours effectively. Thus, students in the Wylie Band quickly learn the positive trait of self-discipline.

Future

Students graduating from high school after completing four years of high school band are proven to be among the most successful students at the collegiate level. Research shows that much of the reason for this success is directly attributable to the discipline learned while a member of the band. Further research proves that students studying music during high school years have significantly higher average S.A.T. scores than students not studying music. Thus, members of the Wylie Band are becoming better prepared to be successful college students.

In a typical classroom, a student’s main objective is to learn as much as possible, and to earn as high a grade as possible. In That Wylie Band, a student gathers much personal knowledge and skill, but the student also has a crucial role to play in the success of others. Band students are constantly judged as a group, a team, a band - not as individuals. To realize that everyone else in the band is counting on you to do your job perfectly is an awesome responsibility. A sincere commitment to excellence is a most important first step on the road to success and handling this task. All the actions of a particular student reflect, for better or worse, on the entire Wylie

Band. It makes membership in the band a responsibility to be taken seriously. It makes the job both exciting and demanding. It also builds friendships that last a lifetime. Wylie Band members are proud of each other, cheer for each other, cry with each other, are concerned for each other and stand by each other forever.

This handbook has been compiled to inform students and parents of some of the responsibilities that go along with the privilege of membership in That Wylie Band. Read the handbook carefully.

Learn it. Live it. Love it! Work hard.

This is your life.

That Wylie Band Handbook

2014-2015

Purpose

This handbook has been written to help students gain the most from their high school band experience as well as provide guidance to the practical everyday experiences of the band program.

Our Mission

Through camaraderie, service and personal dedication, That Wylie Band strives for excellence in every field.

General Goals and Objectives

1. Mental and physical discipline

- Develop powers of concentration
- Memorize music
- Learn techniques of preparation as they relate to group and individual performances
- Develop self and group discipline

2. Citizenship through group endeavor

- Develop leadership abilities
- Develop responsibility
- Develop ability to cooperate with others and to work as a team member
- Develop diligence

3. Physical conditioning

- Develop strength, stamina, and endurance
- Develop coordination

4. Cultural growth

- Provide opportunities to attain knowledge of music history through performance of various types of instrumental literature

5. Value judgments

- Ability to make musical value (as they pertain to a musical setting) judgments through critical listening. The student will recognize quality of sound, pitch, style, tempo, rhythm, blend, balance, phrasing, dynamics and articulation.

6. Music theory

- Know and use note values and rests
- Know and use keys, key signatures and scales
- Know and use musical terms, signs and symbols
- Recognize and tune intervals and harmony
- Ear training / listening skills

7. Proper instrumental technique

- Care of instrument
- Assume correct posture and playing position
- Develop embouchure / stick grip / hand position
- Develop characteristic instrumental tone
- Develop proper breathing techniques
- Develop technical instrumental proficiency (fingering, articulation, rudiments, scales, etc.)

8. Creative self-expression

- Express oneself in every performance experience
- Explore careers

In addition to the State of Texas guidelines, the Wylie High School Band will strive to:

- Provide any interested student with opportunities for music knowledge, musical fellowship, and fun through participation in band.
- Provide for the mental, physical, social, and emotional development of students.
- Instill pride and discipline in each student.
- Provide each student with solo and group endeavors to achieve personal goals and satisfaction.
- Provide basic psychological needs such as recognition, belonging, self-respect, and a feeling of achievement.

General Conduct / Expectations

Band members will observe all policies set forth by the Wylie Independent School District, in addition to the following, as they pertain to the band setting:

1. All students are expected to conduct themselves properly at all times. Displays of profanity, temper, flagrant violations of rules, etc., will not be tolerated. Individual behavior during a band function is a reflection of the group.
2. Students will follow the director's instructions.
3. Students will be in their assigned rehearsal area, ready to work at the set rehearsal time.
4. Students will bring all equipment including music, pencil, instrument and all supplies to rehearsals daily. (See detailed supply list for each instrument.)
5. Students will leave all books, backpacks, and other "non-band" related items in their instrument storage locker during rehearsals. Students will only bring essential band supplies to their seat.
6. Students will keep hands, feet, and other objects to themselves.
7. Students will maintain a high level of good and acceptable behavior.
8. Students will not bring food, drinks, candy or gum in the Band Hall area.
9. Students will not play on equipment they do not own or have permission from a director to use. Students are not to touch, handle, borrow, or use anyone else's instrument, uniform, or personal belongings.
10. Students should ask for permission to speak by raising their hand and waiting to be acknowledged. All rehearsals are expected to be extremely quiet so that our time will be utilized wisely.
11. When allowed in the band hall, either before or after school, students will not disturb any rehearsal in progress.
12. Students will be allowed to use the band hall telephone before or after school as long as such calls relate to school business.
13. Students WILL NOT be allowed to use the band hall telephone during the regular school day without permission from a band director.
14. Students will respect the property of others and return their equipment to its proper storage place when not in use. Each student is responsible for keeping their storage area clean.
15. Students will not enter the directors' offices without permission
16. Students will not deface or mark on music stands, walls, freshmen, etc.
17. Students should keep their equipment in the designated storage area and keep said storage area clean and neat in appearance. Students who demonstrate great difficulty with this may lose the privilege of having a storage area in the band hall.
18. Students will utilize their assigned storage locker for instrument cases during rehearsals. Cases should not be brought into rehearsals unless requested by the band staff.
19. Any behavior which is not representative of good citizenship, as perceived by the band staff, may result in the student's dismissal from the activity at hand as well as the band program. This also applies to the actions of student leaders in both public and private events.

General Daily Supplies

All issued music and Band Binder

Pencil

Instrument

Tuner

All supplies relative to their instrument

All marching related equipment (during marching band season)

- Coordinate cards
- Lyre / folder
- All issued music
- Other marching equipment as needed

Flutes

- Approved type instrument
- Tuning and cleaning rods
- Cleaning cloth
- Screwdriver set (highly recommended)

Clarinets

- Approved type instrument
- Three good, playable reeds
- Reed guard
- Ligature
- Proper mouthpiece with cap (Vandoren 5RV Lyre)
- Key Oil (Case storage)
- Bore Oil (Home storage)
- Cleaning swab
- Cork grease

Saxes / Low Reeds as applicable

- Approved type instrument
- Three good, playable reeds
- Reed guard
- Ligature
- Proper mouthpiece (Selmer C*)
- Pad and neck saver

Trumpet

- Approved type instrument
- Valve oil
- Polishing cloth / cleaning cloth or rag
- Mouthpiece (director approved)
- B.E.R.P.
- Straight mute (when called for)

French Horn

- Approved type instrument
- Rotary / Valve oil
- Polishing cloth / cleaning cloth or rag
- Mouthpiece (director approved)
- B.E.R.P.

Trombone

- Approved type instrument
- Slide cream
- Spray Water Bottle
- Polishing cloth / cleaning cloth or rag
- Mouthpiece (director approved)
- B.E.R.P.

Baritone / Euphonium

- Approved type instrument
- Valve oil
- Polishing cloth / cleaning cloth or rag
- Mouthpiece (director approved)
- B.E.R.P.

Tuba

- Approved type instrument
- Rotary / Valve oil
- Polishing cloth / cleaning cloth or rag
- Mouthpiece (director approved)
- B.E.R.P.

Percussion

- Concert snare drum sticks
- Timpani mallets
- Yarn mallets
- Stick bag

List of approved equipment provided by percussion instructor

Colorguard

- Pole(s)
- Flag(s)
- Rifle (if applicable)
- Sabre (if applicable)
- Electrical tape

School-owned / Issued Instruments

The Wylie Independent School District will provide a limited number of instruments for student use. These instruments include such highly expensive instruments as the Bass Clarinet, Bassoon, Oboe, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, French Horn, Euphonium, Tuba, and general Percussion equipment. This equipment is generally purchased by the school district for student use because of its extremely high value. **Thus, all school owned equipment must be handled with optimum care.** Students failing to care for, or take care of their school issued instrument will lose the privilege to use such instruments. The following is a list of general procedures for school owned instruments:

- The Wylie Independent School District does not provide insurance for individually or school owned equipment. It is required of all students utilizing school owned instruments to provide insurance coverage for the said instrument. **Students will be held responsible for school owned instruments issued to them. This responsibility will include fire, theft, accidental damage, abuse and general maintenance needed not caused by normal use.**
- Each instrument will be issued in good playing condition. Each issued instrument will be checked and cleaned by a music company prior to issue.
- The band member is financially responsible for all equipment and/or materials checked out to him or her.
- All equipment and materials must be kept in their proper storage location when not in use.

Special Note

School owned instruments are not to be treated as “free” instruments. Basic supplies must still be purchased and repairs must still be made just like personally owned instruments. Please strive to treat these instruments as if they were your own. Most school owned instruments exceed a \$2,000.00 value. **Since the expense of purchasing, leasing or renting is waived, students using school owned instruments are strongly encouraged to participate in the private lesson program.**

Travel Guidelines

For all out-of-town performances by the band or any part of the band, school buses (and in some cases, charter buses) will be used to transport the group. Students will adhere to school board policy concerning the riding of buses.

- Students will remain seated, facing front at all times while the bus is moving.
- Food, candy and soft drinks are not permitted on the bus unless specifically allowed for a special trip.
- Students are not to stick anything out of the windows.
- Flash pictures are forbidden.
- Hair spray, perfume or any other aerosols are never to be sprayed while on the bus.
- Radios, CD and .mp3 players may only be used with headphones.
- Do not distract the driver in any way.
- No singing, yelling or screaming on the bus. Talk at a normal conversation volume.
- Do not open the emergency door unless either the driver or a director gives you permission to do so.
- Public displays of affection are inappropriate and will not be tolerated. Students will be moved to a seat next to the director or chaperone.

Remember that school buses usually cannot be locked. Do not leave anything of value where it can be easily seen.

Any student performing with the band must ride to and from the performance on the school buses unless there are extenuating circumstances. If a student must ride home with a parent after a game or performance, the student must do the following:

- Notify the director of the extenuating circumstance **in advance** of the trip and **get permission** to ride with a parent.
- Bring a written permission note signed by the parent and give to the director before the bus leaves.
- Have the parents come to the band and pick up the student. A director must see the student leave with the parents.
- Take all of his/her equipment.

If a student is late and misses the bus, he may be brought to the activity by his/her parents. Once there, the student and parents will report to the band director. If a student is not brought by his parents, the student will not be allowed to perform and will be treated as an unexcused absence from a performance.

Marching Band

The Wylie High School Marching Band is the most visible organization of the district's music program. All band students in grades 9-12 are expected to participate in the Marching Band. Students who participate in certain school sponsored varsity level events such as drill team or football may be excused from participation at the discretion of the band director. Please note different solutions will be presented for varying situations. Students may also be excused from participation in the marching band for other reasons such as medical complications or physical disabilities. Such exemptions will be at the discretion of the director.

Marching Band Organization

1. ***That Wylie Band*** will consist of all students in grades 9-12. Members of *that Wylie Band* will attend all football games and perform throughout the game in the bleachers. They will perform in a pre-game show for home games and will perform at half-time during some early season games. They will perform the drill team music at half-time at all games. Members of *that Wylie Band* will also perform at all playoff games should the football team advance.

Students in *that Wylie Band* will attend all of summer band rehearsals. When school begins, they will attend practice on Friday mornings AND ATTEND THEIR ASSIGNED MASTERCLASS IF APPLICABLE. Members of *that Wylie Band* who are not selected for the Competition Band may elect to attend all rehearsals if so desired in an effort to earn a spot in the Competition Marching Band.

2. **Competition Marching Band.** Any student in grades 9-12 is eligible for a position in this group. Students who are selected for the competition band will participate in all the activities listed above for members of *That Wylie Band*. In addition, they will perform at all half-time shows throughout the season. They will attend all marching band contests in the fall. Students in the Competition Marching Band will attend all summer band rehearsals.

Students will be selected for positions in the Competition Marching Band based on their marching ability, playing ability, and level of responsibility.

Marching Band Rehearsal Schedule

| | | |
|------------------|---------------|---|
| Monday | 7:00 – 8:10am | Competition Band (white shirt for rehearsal) |
| | 5:30 – 7:30pm | Competition Band (white shirt & marching shoes for rehearsal) |
| Tuesday | 7:00 – 8:10am | Competition Band (white shirt for rehearsal) |
| Wednesday | 7:00 – 8:10am | Competition Band (white shirt for rehearsal) |
| Thursday | 7:00 – 8:10am | Competition Band (white shirt for rehearsal) |
| Friday | 7:00 – 8:10am | That Wylie Band (white shirt & marching shoes for rehearsal) |

Friday afternoon/evening and Saturday rehearsal schedules will be based on football games and contest schedules. CHECK YOUR CALENDAR CAREFULLY!

Marching Band Student Leadership Positions

Drum Majors

Drum Major(s) are selected through the drum major/drill instructor audition process. Drum Majors will be used in the instruction of marching skills as well as the general marching drill. The Drum Major will be the field commander and conductor for the marching ensemble. Drum Majors will serve the marching season for which they are selected. In the event an underclassman is selected as Drum Major, he/she must re-audition the next school year to be considered for the position again.

Drill Instructors

Drill Instructor(s) will be selected through the drum major/drill instructor audition process. Drill Instructors will be used in the instruction of marching skills as well as the general marching drill. Drill Instructors will serve the marching season for which they are selected.

Colorguard and Percussion Captains

Colorguard and Percussion Captains are selected through an application and audition process. These positions will be utilized for specific needs as they pertain to the special needs of the colorguard and percussion sections.

Section Leaders

Section Leaders are selected by the band directors through an audition process. Section leaders will have many responsibilities throughout the marching band season. They will be responsible for the discipline, spirit, camaraderie and general welfare of their sections.

Attendance

In order to have and maintain a high quality marching band, attendance from all members is essential. When any student misses a marching band practice, not only do they miss valuable instruction for themselves, but also they make the time unproductive to those around them. It is impossible to correctly execute complex marching maneuvers with someone in the area missing.

Students should schedule academic tutorials between 8:20am-9:00am, during lunch, or after the end of the regular school day.

Roll Check

Attendance will be taken promptly at the start of each rehearsal in the fundamentals block. Students not in the fundamentals block at the appropriate time will be marked tardy or absent. We realize that from time to time a student cannot avoid missing a marching band practice due to illness or emergency situations. When a student misses a rehearsal or is tardy for a rehearsal for **ANY REASON**, they will have the opportunity to “make-up” that time in order to maintain their position in the program.

At the discretion of the band director, students who have attendance and/or tardy problems will be subject to one of the following consequences:

1. Cleaning duty after dinner on Friday night.
2. Loss of position in the Competition Marching Band.
3. Loss of attendance privilege at one game.
4. Removal from the marching band and loss of physical education credit.

Marching Band Performances

The primary performances of the marching band will be at the varsity football games. The marching band will also perform at various competitive marching festivals, the UIL Marching Contests, and other events deemed appropriate by the band directors.

General Performance Procedures

- **Report Time:** This will be the designated time at which all members should be at the high school or set location. Students should have all attire and necessary items for the designated performance prior to the report time.
- **Load Time:** This will be the designated time at which all members should be on the appropriate bus with all equipment loaded. ALL EQUIPMENT WILL BE CHECKED BY THE SECTION LEADERS. STUDENTS WITHOUT APPROPRIATE EQUIPMENT MAY BE SENT HOME AND AN UNEXCUSED ABSENCE RECORDED.
- **Return Time:** This will be the estimated time of return to the band hall.

Music Inspection

Music inspection will occur before all football games and marching band performances that will utilize music which is not part of the competition show. Students will be asked to display music, lyre (if appropriate), and flip folder. Students who do not pass music inspection may not be allowed to perform.

Uniform Inspection

Prior to student departure for a marching band performance, students must pass a uniform inspection. In order to board the bus, students must have complete uniform, raincoat, music, flip folder, water jug, and other components for the marching performance. Students who do not pass uniform inspection may not be allowed to attend the event.

Instrument Transportation

Students will be allowed to transport their instrument on the band trailer. Students will be responsible for seeing that their instrument is loaded into the proper location. **Students will also be responsible to see that their instrument is taken off the trailer and stored correctly at the conclusion of the event.** Students who display difficulty in loading and unloading their instrument may lose the privilege of utilizing the band instrument trailer.

Loading Procedures

Students should ensure that their instrument is in the proper place. Cases should be closed and secure. Instruments in the wrong area may be removed and left behind.

Unloading Procedures

Student should uncase their instrument and place the closed and secure case back in the designated location. Unloading should be done in a timely and efficient manner.

Football Game Procedures

The football game is a performance of the band program. This performance includes all aspects of the game from arrival to departure.

- Students who are academically ineligible will work in the concession stand at home games.
- Students will arrive at the set report time. Students will load and be prepared to travel at the appropriate times.
- Students will load the buses with all equipment needed for the performance. The section leaders will inspect all students boarding buses prior to departure. **Students not meeting uniform, music, and loading guidelines may be sent home and not allowed to participate. Students will receive an unexcused absence for such occurrences.**
- Upon arrival at the performance area, students will don all uniform components. Hats will be carried into the stadium in the hat box. Students will unload the buses when instructed to do so by a chaperone or director.
- Students will report to stand seating order block for final inspection. Students will march in to drum cadence upon instruction from a drum major or director.
- Students will report to seating area. Students will remain standing until all band members have arrived and are prepared to be seated. Students will sit when instructed by a drum major or director. (Students will sit in assigned section. Students will remain in that section at all times.)
- Students will remain in the band seating section at all times during the game. Students will refrain from accepting food or drinks from parents, relatives, or friends while seated in the band section.
- Students will be expected to listen for and watch the directors and drum majors during the game. Students will need to be prepared to perform at all times.
- **Students will refrain from playing their instruments on an individual basis.** The band will perform as a group or with **approved** small ensembles.
- At the appropriate time, the band will be dismissed from the stands for the halftime performance. At this time, the band must move quickly, quietly, and efficiently to the appropriate area. Students will need to be focused on the directors and drum majors instructions.
- At the conclusion of the halftime performance, students will return to the stands.
- During the 4th quarter, we may participate in the good sportsmanship procedures of officer meetings and introductions. The Band Captain and Drum Majors will create a schedule of which student leaders participate in this event.
- At the conclusion of the game, students will load the trailer and buses quickly and efficiently.
- Upon return to the band hall, students will ensure that all personal items and instruments are taken off the buses and trailer and placed in the proper storage areas. **All uniform parts will be hung neatly in the hanging bag and placed on the proper uniform rack. All personal items must be taken home.**
- You must have transportation home arranged prior to getting back to the band hall. After all equipment has been stored...GO HOME.

Band Uniform Guidelines

Students are expected to follow the listed uniform guidelines. No variations will be allowed.

General

- Marching Band uniforms will be kept at the WHS Band Hall in the proper hanging bag.
- Concert Uniforms will be taken home and stored.
- Students will be held financially responsible for the uniform and its components.

Alterations and Care

- Never cut any material from the band uniform. Hem your pants so that the crease does not “break” when you are standing straight up with your band shoes on. The bottom of the pant leg should be even with the ankle bone.
- Keep the coat zipped and snapped while hanging to retain the shape. Always hang the pants by the crease.

Donning the Uniform

- Always wear and treat your uniform with pride. The uniform should be worn as a complete unit at all times when in public. The only exception to this will be when a director instructs you that you may remove your coat. The band t-shirt is to be worn under your uniform. The band t-shirt will be part of the pre-performance inspections.
- Students who wish to wear a cap while in the bleachers will wear the black TWB cap. TWB caps are to be worn with the bill facing forward ... **never backwards**.
- The coat should remain zipped and snapped while being worn. Never wear the coat unzipped.
- The marching hat is always to be worn correctly...**never backwards**.
- You must wear the approved black band shoes and black socks (student purchases).
- Jewelry and colored nail polish etc. is **unacceptable** while in uniform. These items hinder the uniform appearance of the band.
- Female band students with long hair will need to put it up under their hat during performances.
- Male band students hair will need to be cut above the ears and no longer than the ½ of the neck line.
- Natural hair colors will be the only style of color accepted.

Colorguard

- Make-up will be worn as instructed by the director.
- Hair will be styled as instructed by the director
- Proper undergarments, as specified by the director, will be worn.
- Only accessories that are part of the uniform may be worn.

Uniform Costs

If a uniform part is damaged beyond repair or lost, the student will be held responsible for the replacement costs.

Ensembles

Students in the band program will be placed in a concert ensemble by audition each semester. The concert ensembles and their basic responsibilities are as follows:

Wind Symphony

- Performance of all marching contest music from memory
- Participation in marching band
- Preparation of All-Region music during the fall, with tests assigned periodically throughout the first semester.
- Audition for All-Region Band
- Performance of a solo at Wylie ISD Solo Contest
- Performance of an ensemble at Wylie ISD Ensemble Contest
- Performance of concert music as assigned by the director
- Attendance at section rehearsals and/or full band rehearsals before or after school

Wind Ensemble

- Performance of all marching contest music from memory
- Participation in marching band
- Preparation of All-Region music during the fall, with tests assigned periodically throughout the first semester.
- Audition for All-Region Band
- Performance of a solo at Wylie ISD Solo Contest
- Performance of an ensemble at Wylie ISD Ensemble Contest
- Performance of concert music as assigned by the director
- Attendance at section rehearsals and/or full band rehearsals before or after school

Symphonic Maroon/Black Band

- Performance of all marching contest music from memory
- Participation in marching band
- Preparation of masterclass music during the fall, with tests assigned periodically throughout the first semester.
- Students are encouraged to participate in Wylie ISD Solo & Ensemble Contest
- Performance of concert music as assigned by the director
- Attendance at section rehearsals and/or full band rehearsals before or after school

Symphonic White Band

- Performance of all marching contest music from memory
- Participation in marching band
- Performance of a solo at UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest or in a class recital
- Students are encouraged to participate in Wylie Solo & Ensemble Contest
- Performance of concert music as assigned by the director
- Attendance at section rehearsals and/or full band rehearsals before or after school

Jazz Band

- Preparation of All-Region music during the fall, with tests assigned periodically throughout the first semester.
- Audition for All-Region Jazz Band
- Perform at Jazz performances and contests throughout the year
- Attendance at section rehearsals and/or full band rehearsals before or after school

Drumline Class

- Performance of all marching contest music from memory
- Participation in marching band
- Preparation of All-Region music during the fall, with tests assigned periodically throughout the first semester.

- Audition for All-Region Band
- Attendance at section rehearsals and/or full band rehearsals before or after school

Colorguard Class

- Development of individual basics including flag, rifle and saber skills
- Development of basic movement skills
- Development of ensemble skills including timing of flags and body movement
- Performance of marching contest routine by memory
- Participation in all marching band activities in the fall semester and winter guard activities in the spring semester
- This class is open to students who do not perform on a band instrument as well as band students who want to have additional work in this area.
- Students who are currently members of the band must remain a member of the band in order to participate in colorguard

Performance / Rehearsal Requirements for the Concert Ensembles

Each of the concert ensembles will perform at various times throughout the school year. Students are expected to participate in the performances of the assigned ensemble. Failure to participate in either rehearsals or performances will result in student removal from the organization at the discretion of the band directors. (See general attendance policies.)

Performances of the concert ensembles will include, but are not limited to the following:

- Christmas Concert
- Woodwind/Brass Choir Concert
- WISD Celebrate the Arts Festival
- Pre-UIL Contest
- UIL Contest
- Spring Concert

Concerts / Performances

Concerts and performances are frequent with all bands. Students should consult their schedules for dates and times. Occasionally, the schedule will change and updates will be posted.

Concerts are considered to have three parts: warm-up, performance, and listening.

The concert begins for the student at the warm-up. Punctuality is essential. A concert concludes after the last group is finished performing or their assigned audience time is complete. A general report time will be given for all students.

- All concerts are a group effort, thus, **attendance is required and is a major grade.**
- All concerts are an extension of the classroom and will be graded accordingly.
- Students should be punctual and prepared for each performance / concert.
- In the event a performance causes a student to miss another class, the student is responsible to make up all missed work.
- The appropriate dress for all concerts will be the concert uniform unless different attire is deemed appropriate by the director(s).
- Students are expected to stay for their assigned audience time.

General Attendance

In order to have and maintain high quality concert ensembles, attendance from all members is essential. Section and full band rehearsals outside the school day are an extension of the classroom and will be graded accordingly.

The following guidelines outline the attendance procedures and policies for concert ensembles as it relates to before/after school rehearsals and section rehearsals.

Roll Check

Roll will be checked promptly at the start of rehearsal.

Tardiness

Students not seated at the appropriate time will receive a mark of tardy.

Excused Tardiness

Tardiness will be excused at the discretion of the directors. Tutorials, appointments, etc. will not be an excuse for tardiness unless prior arrangements are made and approved. Students who have an excused tardy will make up the missed time at a time to be arranged by the director.

Unexcused Tardiness

Students who have an unexcused tardy to a rehearsal or section rehearsal will receive a grade reduction for that activity. Students will make up the time missed at a time to be arranged by the director.

Excused Absence

Absences will be excused at the discretion of the directors. Appointments, tutorials, etc. will not be an excuse for absence. Personal illness, death in the family, and serious problems will be considered as excused absences. Students who are continually ill may need to provide a doctor's note in order to ensure the well being of the child and to reduce band director concerns. If in doubt, this should be checked with a director. **Special note: During the concert season, students will generally be responsible for ONE weekly section rehearsal and group rehearsals as needed. Thus, students will have ample days available for tutorials and appointments.** Students will make up the time missed at a time to be arranged by the director.

Unexcused Absence

Students who have an unexcused absence will be expected to make up the missed time at the discretion of the director. Students will receive a maximum grade of 70% for the make up time. Also, a student may lose his/her position in the band for such absences.

All-Region Band/Orchestra Guidelines

- All Wind Symphony and Wind Ensemble members will audition for the All-Region Band. If selected, you will perform a concert. (Check your calendar for dates!)
- All other band students are encouraged to audition as ability and desire permits.
- Paying the entry fee does not guarantee a student the privilege of auditioning. **Only those students who have carefully prepared the audition music will be allowed to audition.**
- Any person who is fortunate to be selected will attend all rehearsals and the performance.

It is quite an honor to be selected to the All-Region Band. Hundreds of students throughout the region will audition. Even if you are not selected, the experience you receive by preparing will enhance your musical ability and education!

Solo and Ensemble Contest

- All Wind Symphony and Wind Ensemble members will prepare and perform a solo for performance at the WISD Ensemble Contest, and WISD Solo Contest. UIL Solo & Ensemble is an optional activity.
- All other band students are encouraged to participate as ability and desire permits.
- Paying the entry fee does not guarantee a student or group of students the privilege of performing at the contest. **Only those students who have carefully prepared their music will be allowed to perform.**

Eligibility (no pass / no play)

Many band activities are designated by the state as extra-curricular. These activities are therefore governed by the state laws regarding participation.

1. At the conclusion of any 9 weeks (and first 6 weeks of school) grading period, a student must not have recorded grade lower than 70 in any course. A student with a failing grade is suspended from participation in any extra-curricular activity, starting seven (7) calendar days from the end of the six weeks. During that suspension period, a student may practice or rehearse with other students for an extra-curricular activity but **may not** participate in a competition or an extra-curricular performance. Three weeks following each six-week grading period, grades are checked for all students who failed one or more courses during the preceding six weeks. If a student is passing **all** courses at the end of the three-week period, he/she may regain eligibility seven calendar days after the three-week evaluation period. If the student is still failing one or more courses at the three-week period, he/she remains ineligible until the end of the six-week grading period.

2. Advanced Placement courses, Pre-Advanced placement courses and other advanced courses are exempt from the state No Pass/No Play rule provide the student earns a grade of 60 or higher in the course.

Band is a group activity in which members depend on each other for success. Students who are ineligible hinder the success of all other students in the organization. WHS Band students who have continual eligibility problems may be dismissed from the program until such time that they show consistent academic success.

*****STUDENTS WHO BECOME INELIGIBLE DURING MARCHING SEASON WILL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND A STUDY HALL ALL FOR ALL GAMES IN WHICH THEY ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE******

General School Conduct

As a band member, you are expected to display exemplary conduct at all times! This is not limited to band activities, but encompasses daily classroom and campus behavior. Failure to maintain exemplary conduct will result in disciplinary action at the discretion of the band director. **Students who continually have discipline problems in and/or outside the band may be dismissed from the program.**

Extra-curricular Penalty for Violation of Drug/Alcohol Disciplinary Code

Any student who is found guilty of violating the drug and or alcohol code of the WISD disciplinary plan (Student Code of Conduct) during the regular school day or at school sponsored activities will be suspended from any and all extra-curricular activities for one calendar year from the date of the first offense. The second offense will result in permanent expulsion from any and all extra-curricular activities. All of the above is in addition to the regular school assessment of penalties for violations of the WISD disciplinary code (Student Code of Conduct).

General Grading Policy

- The WISD has established instructional objectives that relate to the mandated Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for all courses.
- Assignments, tests, projects, classroom activities, and other instructional activities will be designed so that the student's performance indicates the level of mastery of the designated objectives. The student's mastery level of these objectives is a major factor in determining the grade for a subject or course.
- A major part of the music curriculum is the development of performance skills. Therefore "unexcused" absences from a sectional, rehearsal or performance, which are integral to developing these performance skills, will lower a student's course grade.
- Since band is an academic music class with some extra-curricular activities attached, the band student's grade will reflect achievement in both curricular and extra-curricular areas.

A band member's six weeks grade will be an average of the following items:

Daily Grade

- The student will receive a grade for their performance in class during a grading period.
- The student will receive a grade for their performance in before and after school sectionals and rehearsals during a grading period.
- The student will be on task and focused during all rehearsals
- The student will have instrument, music, pencil and supplies.
- The student will mark music and take notes as needed.

9 Week Objective Sheets & Practice reports

- The student will be expected to complete each item on the objective sheets.
- Students will be required to log practice time on Charms for a weekly grade. The grading policy for the practice log is located in Charms.

Performances

- The student will receive a grade for each performance during a grading period.
- The band director will determine the number of performances.
- If no public performance occurs during a grading period, the "performance" grade will be based upon informal classroom performances determined by the director.

Excused absences from a performance

- In accordance with WISD policy, all excused absences will be honored with no grade penalty. These will include:
 - Medical emergency or illness
 - Death in the family
 - Religious holiday
- An alternative assignment will be provided by the band director for those students who miss a performance with an excused absence. This assignment must be completed and the grade will be averaged in the place of the missed performance.
- If an excused absence is anticipated, a written notification should be submitted at least two days in advance.
- Students who are academically ineligible or temporarily suspended from extra-curricular activities will complete an alternative assignment for each performance missed.

Letter Jacket Award System

All members of "that Wylie Band" will have the opportunity to "letter" in band each year that they participate in the program. A High School student may only receive one jacket during their High School career; however, those who meet the requirements and already have a jacket will receive a band letter or bars indicating the number of years they have "lettered" in band.

The following 50 point requirements have been established by the Band Directors and WHS administration. Points are accumulated in two required areas; **Service and Attendance** and **Performance**. No more than 40 points can be obtained towards a letter jacket in the Service and Attendance requirement:

Service and Attendance Requirements (40 points):

1. Work two shifts in the football stadium concession stands. A shift = 2 hours. Upon completion of one shift, students are awarded 20 points. You may work more than 2 shifts, however no more than 40 points can be obtained towards a letter jacket. One other opportunity is the American Classic contest at the Meyerson Symphony Center.
2. Participate in all Band Contests during the year.
3. No absence from any performance unless excused by the Band Director prior to the performance.

Note: Due to the increasing numbers of Band students wishing to letter each year, the Band Director may establish alternative means of meeting the Service requirements. Those students who cannot work in the concession stand on Tuesday or Thursday nights should check with the Band Director during football season to obtain alternate Service credit.

Performance Requirements (10 points):

A student must earn 10 points in a school year in addition to the service requirement to letter. Points will be awarded for the following:

- 4 pts. – TMEA Region Band membership (Concert Band or Jazz Band)
- 3 pts. – TMEA Area Band membership
- 2 pts. – TMEA All State Band membership
- 2 pts. – WISD District Band membership
- 3 pts. – First Division on a Solo at UIL or Wylie ISD Solo/Ensemble Contest
- 1 pt. – Added for an "Exemplary" rating at WISD solo contest (*NEW*)
- 3 pts. – First Division on an Ensemble at UIL or Wylie ISD Solo/Ensemble Contest
(*Limit 2 ensembles*)

Caveat

To eliminate the need for a system of point transfer and archival record keeping, lettering points will not carry over from one year to the next. Each year the student must begin a new accumulation of points.

Colorguard Letter Jacket Award System

All colorguard members of will have the opportunity to "letter" in colorguard each year that they participate in the program. A High School student may only receive one jacket during their High School career; however, those who meet the requirements and already have a jacket will receive a colorguard letter or bars indicating the number of years they have "lettered" in colorguard.

The following 50 point requirements have been established by the Band Directors and WHS administration. Points are accumulated in two required areas; **Service and Attendance** and **Performance**. No more than 40 points can be obtained towards a letter jacket in the Service and Attendance requirement:

Service and Attendance Requirements (40 points):

1. Work two shifts in the football stadium concession stands. A shift = 2 hours. Upon completion of one shift, students are awarded 20 points. You may work more than 2 shifts, however no more than 40 points can be obtained towards a letter jacket.
2. Participate in all Contests during the year.
3. No absence from any performance unless excused by the Band Director prior to the performance.

Note: Due to the increasing numbers of Band students wishing to letter each year, the Band Director may establish alternative means of meeting the Service requirements. Those students who cannot work in the concession stand on Tuesday or Thursday nights should check with the Band Director during football season to obtain alternate Service credit.

Performance Requirements (10 points):

1. First division on a Solo or Small Ensemble at the Wylie S&E Contest (5 points).
2. First division on a Solo or Small Ensemble at the NTCA Championships (5 points).

Texas Music Scholar Program

The Texas Music Educators Association **Texas Music Scholar Program** designates students in high school music programs who exemplify attributes of meritorious performance in the areas of scholarship, musicianship, and citizenship.

Designation is attained by student application and TMEA Active Member recommendation of students in grades 9-12 that have met the following criteria during the current school year:

- Is a viable member of the school's parent musical organization for the entire school year
- Maintains an overall "A" average as defined by the local school district for the entire school year
- Maintains academic eligibility for the entire school year
- Participates in all scheduled events of the parent organization
- Attends, as an audience member, two director-approved concert events of high school, collegiate or professional level during a school year.
- Is selected and participates as required as a member of a TMEA (ATSSB) organization (band, orchestra, or choir).
- Performs a UIL Prescribed Music List Class 1 solo for a competition or public performance
- Consistently exhibits behavior which brings honor to the parent organization, school and community

These criteria may be met through participation singularly or in any combination of band, orchestra, or vocal parent organizations. The distinction may be achieved each school year.

The school year is defined as the beginning of the year through the next-to-the-last official grade reporting period of the local school district for the purposes of calculating grade averages and determining eligibility.

Texas Music Scholars will receive a certificate and letter from the Texas Music Educators Association signed by the current TMEA President and Executive Director. Scholars will also be able to purchase additional representations of this distinction from TMEA.

WHY STUDY MUSIC? WHY MAKE MUSIC?

MUSIC IS A SCIENCE

It is exact, specific, and it demands exact acoustics. A conductor's full score is a chart, a graph that indicates frequencies, intensities, volume changes, melody, and harmony all at once and with the most exact control of time.

MUSIC IS MATHEMATICAL

It is rhythmically based on the subdivision of time into fractions that must be done instantaneously, not worked out on paper.

MUSIC IS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Most of the terms are in Italian, German, or French, and the notation is certainly not English, but rather is a highly developed kind of shorthand that uses symbols to represent ideas. The semantics of music is the most complete and universal language.

MUSIC IS HISTORY

Music often reflects the environment of its creation, offering insight into other cultures and times.

MUSIC IS PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Playing an instrument requires fantastic coordination of fingers, hands, arms, lips, cheeks, and facial muscles, in addition to extraordinary control of the diaphragm, back, stomach, and chest muscles, which respond instantly to the sound the ear hears and the mind interprets.

MUSIC IS ALL OF THESE THINGS, BUT MOST OF ALL MUSIC IS ART

It allows a human being to take all these techniques and use them to create emotion. That is one thing science cannot duplicate: spirituality, humanism, feeling, transcendence, emotion, call it what you will.

THIS IS WHY WE STUDY MUSIC - MAKE MUSIC!

Not because we expect you to major in music
Not because we expect you to play or sing all your life
Not just so you can relax
Not just so you can have fun
But - so you will be human
so you will recognize beauty
so you will be sensitive
so you will be closer to an infinite beyond this world
so you will have something to cling to
so you will have more love, more compassion, more gentleness, more good –
in short, more life!

Of what value will it be to make a prosperous living unless you know how to live?
To what end is it to know the price of everything and the value of nothing?

WHAT OTHERS SAY ABOUT THE BAND EXPERIENCE

From the Harvard University Admission Department:

“We always consider extracurricular talents and personal strengths when we evaluate candidate’s credentials. We look for students whose previous participation in the arts shows that they can make a substantial contribution to our community.”

and from the Admissions Department at Johns Hopkins University:

“Participation in the performing arts during the pre-college years is a clear indication to our admission committee that a student is dedicated to, excited about and engaged in the educational journey.”

and this from The College Board concerning SAT takers:

“Students with course work in music performance scored 51 points higher on the verbal portion of the SAT and 39 points higher on the math portion of the SAT than students without music course work. (Further)...those who studied four or more years scored 59 points higher on verbal and 44 points higher on math portions of the SAT than students with no experience.”

and this from Thomas Meyers - Director of Investor Relations, TRW, Inc:

“I view the instrumental music program as leadership development. One of my tasks is to find new employees who will become the company’s senior leaders in ten to twenty years. Most of the students we hire have impressive grades, good business experience with major companies, and the leadership, character, and skills they acquired while being a member of their high school band.”

and this from “An Evaluation of Achievement in Reading and Arithmetic”:

“Music students always out-perform non-music students on achievement tests in reading and math. Because of their study of music, their skills are better at reading, anticipating, memory, listening, forecasting, recall and concentration.”

and this from Dr. F. Rauscher and Dr. G. Shaw of the University of California:

“Music lessons have been shown to improve a child’s performance in school. After eight months of keyboard lessons, preschoolers showed a 46% boost in their spatial IQ, which is crucial for higher brain functions such as complex mathematics.”

Information and Medical Release Form

Fill in this form completely and return to the band office. Notify the band office as soon as possible if any changes need to be made to this information.

Student's Last Name _____ First Name _____

Instrument _____ Make Model _____ Serial Number _____

Home Mailing Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Home Phone _____

Mother's/Guardian's First & Last Name _____

Mother's Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Father's/Guardian's First & Last Name _____

Father's Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Parent/Guardian Email address _____

Emergency Contact Name _____ Phone _____

Family Doctor _____ Phone _____

Student's Insurance _____ Policy Number _____

List any allergies the student has (including drug allergies) _____

List any medications that are being taken _____

List any conditions that may restrict physical activity _____

I do hereby give to the Wylie High School Band Directors, or their designees, the authority to seek medical attention for the above named student in the event of an emergency or in any situation that requires medical attention.

We have read the 2014-15 That Wylie Band Handbook and fully understand its contents. By signing below, I agree to abide by the rules, regulations and policies stated herein.

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____

PARENT/STUDENT UIL MARCHING BAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

No student may be required to attend practice for marching band for more than eight hours of rehearsal outside the academic school day per calendar week (Sunday through Saturday). This provision applies to students in all components of the marching band.

On performance days (football games, competitions and other public performances) bands may hold up to one additional hour of warm-up and practice beyond the scheduled warm-up time at the performance site. Multiple performances on the same day do not allow for additional practice and/or warm-up time.

Examples Of Activities Subject To The UIL Marching Band Eight Hour Rule.

- Marching Band Rehearsal (Both Full Band And Components)
- Any Marching Band Group Instructional Activity
- Breaks
- Announcements
- Debriefing And Viewing Marching Band Videos
- Playing Off Marching Band Music
- Marching Band Sectionals (Both Director And Student Led)
- Clinics For The Marching Band Or Any Of Its Components

The Following Activities Are Not Included In The Eight Hour Time Allotment:

- Travel Time To And From Rehearsals And/Or Performances
- Rehearsal Set-Up Time
- Pep Rallies, Parades And Other Public Performances
- Instruction And Practice For Music Activities Other Than Marching Band And Its Components

NOTE: An extensive Q&A for the Eight Hour Rule for Marching Band can be found on the Music Page of the UIL Web Site at: www.uil.utexas.edu

“We have read and understand the Eight-Hour Rule for Marching Band as stated above and agree to abide by these regulations.”

Parent Signature_____Date_____

Student Signature_____Date_____

This form is to be kept on file by the local school district.

Wylie Music Enrichment Program

Supplemental Music Lessons

Supplemental music lessons are offered as enrichment to classroom instruction and are designed to utilize the broad scope of characteristic literature available for every instrument. Rather than stress the singular goal of competition preparation, the emphasis instead is on nurturing the independent thinking and individual performance skills critical to the development of the maturing musician. The focus is on acquiring refined levels of sight-reading and technical proficiency in tandem with the attainment of an advanced sense of musical instinct and interpretation.

Participation

Although optional, participation in the supplemental lesson program is encouraged and available to all students. Those who elect not to participate in supplemental lessons will not be penalized in grading, chair placement, or band assignment.

Students Responsibility to the Private Teacher

- Prepare each lesson fully
- Follow attendance rules
- Provide documentation and exhibit evidence of practice
- Supply materials required by instructor
- Participate in all activities required as a condition of study

Private Teachers Responsibility to the Student

- To provide each student a quality private lesson which will contribute positively to the development and continual improvement of the student as a musician and performer.
- To instill an appreciation for each instruments solo repertoire.
- To cultivate the desire within each student to make music a lifelong activity.
- To exhibit professional characteristics and demeanor in attitude, appearance, behavior and responsibility in every activity germane to private lesson instruction.

Lesson Location and Scheduling

Lessons during the day will be taught in the school the student attends.

The band director of each school, in cooperation with the private instructor, will schedule lessons for the students who desire to participate. Lessons will be twenty-five minutes in length. It is recommended that the student receive a lesson each week. The cost of each lesson for the 2013-2014 school year is **\$17.50**. Lessons may be scheduled during the student's band or lunch period, and before or after school. No lessons will be scheduled during non-music classes. It will be the responsibility of the student to notify his/her supplemental music instructor at least twenty-four hours in advance if a lesson is to be cancelled unless, of course, a serious emergency arises. This courtesy is also the responsibility of the supplemental music instructor if he/she must cancel a lesson. The school directors will aid the student in advising the supplemental music teacher of concerts, programs, holidays, etc., which would result in any interruption of the regular lesson schedule.

Financial Considerations

Payment will be made directly from student to private lesson teacher at the beginning of every month so as to pay one month in advance. Checks should be made payable to the individual private lesson teacher.

Enrollment

Enrollment in the supplemental music lesson program is on a voluntary basis. Termination of lessons by the student, supplemental music teacher, or band director will be accomplished by written notice to the student or teacher and the band director. Supplemental music teachers are assigned as requested by the student, if possible. In some cases, individual schedules will not allow the requested teacher. Questions concerning assignment of supplemental music teachers should be directed to your student's band director. Questions concerning lesson dates and times, or number of lessons taught, should be directed to your student's supplemental music teacher.