



WESTFIELD

BLUE DEVIL BANDS

2023 Marching Uniform Guidelines

COLOR GUARD UNIFORMS

The color guard uniform design changes each year and is designed around the theme of the show. These uniforms are purchased by the WHS Band Parents Association and must be returned at the conclusion of the season. The shoes, however, may be kept since they are purchased separately and paid for by the students. Cleaning instructions will be sent to guard members. Do not attempt to clean until you receive those instructions.

MARCHING BAND UNIFORMS

The following items are provided to students by the band, are stored at home, and are to be returned at the conclusion of the season:

- Garment Bag
- Uniform Jacket
- Bibbers (pants)
- Shako (hat) and box for storage
- Gauntlets

The following items are provided to students through their marching band fee and can be kept at the conclusion of the season:

- Show Shirt
- White Gloves
- Black Socks
- Marching Band Baseball Hat. This item is worn in the stands at football games.

The following items will be issued at each performance and collected following each performance:

- Plumes (feather that is placed in the top of the shako)

Students pay for the following items and these items are kept at the conclusion of the season:

- Black Marching Shoes

**Must be cleaned prior to every performance. Use dish-soap.*

The following is the required attire to be worn **UNDER** the marching band uniform for all performances:

- Current show shirt.
- Black or grey Under Armour or similar compression shirts are permitted in colder weather, but show shirt must be worn over top of Under Armour. Students are not required to wear a compression shirt, but cannot wear baggy sweatshirts or other long sleeve shirts. The reason for this is that we sometimes take the uniform jackets off and we want to ensure that all students look uniform with or without the jacket on.
- Black mesh gym shorts, black compression shorts, or black long underwear (provided by student)
 - Jeans, cargo shorts, sweatpants, or cargo pants are not permitted
- There is generally no privacy when changing into uniforms. Students are either changing in Edison School or on a bus. As a result, the above items should be worn all day on days of performances. Any clothing students will be wearing, whether it be uniform or personal clothing (for after performances) can be worn overtop of the required items described above.

CONDUCT WHILE IN UNIFORM

Part of the criteria for which we are judged at competitions is the uniformity of our appearance. As a result, we ask that close attention be paid to every detail listed below. While you are in uniform you are constantly being observed. Your personal appearance and your actions represent not only you, but also our band, school, and community. The uniform assigned to you is a valuable asset to the band program. You will be responsible for its care. If something needs to be fixed or adjusted on your uniform, please notify a director immediately.

BEHAVIOR

- No profane language
- No running
- No yelling
- Be respectful towards other bands at all times
- Always be with a buddy when traveling to bathrooms, etc.
- No eating while in full uniform

INSPECTION

Prior to each performance, members must pass an inspection of their uniform and equipment. This ensures that the band maintains a cohesive, consistent appearance. In addition, we hope to foster good personal habits and pride in the band. The following criteria have been established for achieving a clean and uniform look throughout the band:

- ***No jewelry of any kind is to be worn while in uniform.*** This includes all visible piercings.
- No nail polish is to be worn while in uniform if you are in a section who does not wear a full glove.
- No make-up is to be worn in uniform (color guard is an exception).
- Gloves must be clean and white.
- The show shirt and/or Under Armour must be worn under the uniform coat at all times.
- Black socks are provided. Must be crew length (mid-calf) or longer.
- All hair must be kept off of the collar and tucked into the uniform hat. If necessary, members must pin up hair to avoid allowing hair to fall on the collar using neutral colored or black hair items.
- All uniform parts must be worn as instructed.

It is the students responsibility to properly hang the uniform on the hanger after performances. Shakos must be stored in the supplied box.

CLEANING

Uniforms can ONLY be dry-cleaned. They do not need to be cleaned after every performance, but should be cleaned throughout the season. Cleaning them after every performance will shorten their lifespan. Flair Cleaners provides a discount to marching band members. **DO NOT** attempt to dry-clean gauntlets. Shakos can be cleaned with Windex and a paper towel. Do not use bleach. Gloves can be machine washed.

UNIFORM FIT

DO NOT try to alter the fit of the uniform. If you have questions please direct them to Mr. Batiz or Mr. Vitale. DO NOT attempt to hem pants by sewing or alter the uniforms in any other way. There is a very specific fit that is desired for uniformity and we ask that you leave that up to the staff and uniform volunteers.

REPLACEMENT COST OF DAMAGED UNIFORMS

Students will be responsible for replacing a uniform that was cared improperly for during the season. Replacement costs are:

Uniform Jacket: \$200.00

Bibbers: \$134.00

Gauntlets: \$34.75

Shako and hat-box: \$105.75

Garment Bag: \$13.50

TOTAL COST OF BAND UNIFORM: \$522.00

TOTAL COST OF COLOR GUARD UNIFORM: \$195.00