



WESTFIELD

BLUE DEVIL BANDS

2024 Marching Uniform Guidelines

COLOR GUARD UNIFORMS

The color guard uniform design changes each year and is designed around the theme of the show. The majority cost of these uniforms is covered by the WHS Band Parents Association and they 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. Guard members will be given specific information regarding what can and cannot be worn under their uniform. Failure to follow these guidelines can result in a student not being permitted to perform. Guard members will also be trained on how to do uniform makeup and hair. Failure to follow these guidelines can result in the student not being permitted to perform. Uniformity is key, always.

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
- Bibbers (pants)

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

- Show Shirt
- Digitally printed uniform top
- Black Socks
- Marching Band Baseball Hat. This item is worn in the stands at football games.

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:

- Black under armor (or similar) form-fitting top. Can be short or long sleeve. No t-shirts, sweatshirts, etc.
- 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 FOR ALL MEMBERS

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
 - ☐ There are instances where students will be instructed they can eat in half uniform (no tops).

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/distracting piercings.
- No nail polish is to be worn while in uniform. **This will be enforced this year because we are not wearing gloves.**
- No noticeable make-up is to be worn in uniform (color guard is an exception).
- An under-armor (or similar) shirt must be worn under the uniform jacket at all times.
- Black socks are provided. Must be crew length (mid-calf) or longer.
- All hair must be kept off of the collar. We are not wearing hats this year so hair must be neat and up. 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.

CLEANING BAND UNIFORMS

Uniforms CANNOT be dry-cleaned. This is different than in previous years due to the newer material of the uniforms. 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.

Uniform Pants: Machine wash cool/gentle cycle. Use mild detergent and lay flat to dry. Do not place garment in dryer and do not dry clean. Do not wring or twist. Once dry, iron on low heat under “synthetic or polyester” setting. Damage to the pants can result in you not being permitted to perform until the pants can be replaced. We do not have extras.

UNIFORM FIT FOR ALL MEMBERS

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: \$75

Bibbers: \$120

Garment Bag: \$15

TOTAL COST OF BAND UNIFORM: \$210

TOTAL COST OF COLOR GUARD UNIFORM/GARMENT BAG: \$240

Note - digital uniform tops and color guard uniforms cannot be replaced quickly if at all. They are custom printed for us and not an in-stock item. Generally, the cost to print one is much higher than the costs listed above and the production time for them is usually several weeks. Any damage to the uniform may mean that you now have no uniform for the rest of the season. Please handle with extreme care.