



MARCHING BAND 101
2021-2022 SEASON

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BAND OVERVIEW

Band shows have become an athletic art form. Competitive marching band shows are musical productions comprised of a central or connecting theme, elements of modern movement or dance, elaborate props, and often incredibly demanding music and drill (drill = march routines).

Well-coordinated productions use the three main elements of the band (Brass/Winds, Percussion and Color Guard) equally to portray a main theme or idea. It is not unusual for members of the wind and percussion sections to be featured during portions of the production, performing solos or elements of modern dance.

The Color Guard has taken an increasingly more extensive role, often making multiple costume changes during a production. In addition to flags spun throughout the production, “weapons” are often utilized, a link to the past military traditions. Rifles, sabers, or other modern “props” have been used to help convey the central theme.

Walled Lake participates in marching band competitions within Michigan as a member of **Michigan Competing Band Association (MCBA)** and is categorized as a Flight 1 school based on student enrollment. **Bands of America (BOA)** hosts the regional and national competitions in which we compete against marching bands from outside the state of Michigan.

Marching Band Philosophy

Competitive marching bands must have a healthy attitude and philosophy. The band’s attitude is, **“We compete against one band – and that band is us.”** The overall objective is to strive for excellence and to perform one’s best. Everyday improvement of personal standards of performance is the driving philosophy.

Competing “to win” leads to a road of disappointment – despite even one’s best efforts. Band programs falter when their goal is “winning,” leading the bands to place much lower than expected. The goal of winning, while exciting, does not encourage sportsmanship. That attitude leads to bitterness and disappointment, and ultimately the participants lose the spirit of teamwork and personal responsibility. In fact, it is for the adjudication process, that the band competes at all. It helps the band to learn about their strengths as well as their areas of needed improvement. The feedback they gain from competing helps them to grow both as individual performers as well as a complete ensemble.

Marching Band Board

The WL Schools Competitive Band program prides itself on our huge parental involvement. While the Marching Band program may seem overwhelming to new families, **we strongly encourage you to jump in and get involved!** We have MANY volunteer opportunities available for parents. Getting involved is an excellent way to meet new people, become more familiar with the program and to be involved in your child's life.

The Band Booster meetings can be found on the Membership Toolkit calendar and are usually scheduled on the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm (unless otherwise stated). Meetings are typically held in the WLC Media Center; however, with COVID-19 and state restrictions on in-person meetings, we have been using Zoom and holding virtual meetings. The meetings run approximately one hour and are packed with information. We highly encourage parents' attendance to stay informed.

The Marching Band Board is comprised of 100 percent parent volunteers who are elected every March. Board members do not receive any compensation for their time and efforts, including discounts on merchandise.

The goal of the Board is solely to support the Band Director and the Marching Band Program!

GO BAND!

QUESTIONS: wlcbands@gmail.com

MAILING ADDRESS: WLC Bands, PO Box 795, Walled Lake, MI 48390

2021-2022 Band Booster Board

Band Director	David Rogers
Band Director	Patrick Dudzinski
Co-President	Shawn Athayde
Co-President	Kris McGinnis
Vice President	Chris DeMont
Treasurer	Laurie Peggs
Co-Director of Logistics	Kristi Cornish
Co-Director of Logistics	Jodi Gallo
Director of Administration	Sarah Jewell
Director of Communications	Cheri Scharrer
Dues/Fee Administrator	Katie Malislow
Recording Secretary	Kathy Gruzaz
Co-Camp Director	Brandi Robinson
Co-Camp Director	Joelle Berry

Leadership

Dave Rogers	Director
Patrick Dudzinski	Director
Nick Pourcho	Assistant Director
Seth Williams	Color Guard Director

Committee Chairpersons

At Home Camp	Brandi Robinson / Joelle Berry
Away Camp	Brandi Robinson / Joelle Berry
Banquet	Adele Ayoubi
Bingo	Shawn Athayde
Car Wash	Kathy Gruzaz / Kim Morgan
Chaperones	Shawn Athayde
Decals	OPEN
Food-Meals	Jennifer Wall
Photographer	Dee Middleton
Pit Crew/Props	Leo Gruzaz / Mike Jeneary
Post States Party	Adele Ayoubi
Preview Show	Darcy Jeneary
Sr Night & Sr Flowers	OPEN
Spirit Wear	OPEN
Uniforms	Melissa Rushton / Amanda Matchulat

2021 WL MARCHING BAND SCHEDULE

- Please visit <https://wlbands.membershiptoolkit.com/marching-band-calendar> for a full downloadable calendar
- Google calendar links are also available on the wlbands.com and wlwbands.com website.
- **Dates and times are tentative and subject to change.**
 - Changes to the calendar will be updated in Band Buzz emails.

COMMUNICATIONS

Membership Toolkit

Membership Toolkit – <https://wlbands.membershiptoolkit.com> is the competitive marching band website used for registration, maintaining student information and communication tools. This is where you will also find all volunteer/donations needs for the season. If you plan to chaperone or volunteer with the students at competitions, you must complete the background form.

Band Websites

- Walled Lake Central: www.wlcbands.com
- Walled Lake Western: www.wlwbands.com
- This is where you will find information on all the Walled Lake Central and Walled Lake Western Band Programs.

Band Communications

The Band Buzz is the weekly newsletter for the competitive marching Band. Once you are registered on Membership Toolkit you should start receiving the Band Buzz emails. If you are not receiving the Band Buzz, please contact wlbands@gmail.com.

Texts

Text updates will come to your cell via **REMIND**. You will need to sign up for this service; the Board will make sure you have the information to do so at the beginning of the season. Texts are especially helpful for meeting reminders, last minute changes and notices regarding the bus locations when returning from competitions.

Facebook

You'll find the link to request to join our NEW competitive marching band [WLMB Members Page](#) to stay updated on program information. This is a place where parents share show information and pictures, so you don't want to miss out on gaining access.

SmugMug

This is the Photo Storage site for our band: www.wlcbands.smugmug.com password: wlcrocks. Every year hundreds of photos are loaded of the band students, practices, and performances. If you love to take pictures, please upload your photos. It is easy to access the photos and download any you wish to use.

BAND FEES AND DONATIONS

Fees

Marching Band costs approximately \$1500 per student for a regular season. With our fundraising efforts we have lowered the band bill to \$950 for a regular season. Limited financial aid and scholarships are available. Inquiries should be directed to Mr. Rogers or Mr. Dudzinski.

The seasonal dues cover practically everything for the season. Each season, Mr. Rogers/Mr. Dudzinski assembles an expert and gifted staff of clinicians and musicians to work with our students. These professionals spend quality time with our students and have helped us to reach the state championships for the last 12+ years and WIN the state championship in 2010, 2011 and 2013! Transportation costs, food for the students on competition days, band camp, Regionals and Grand Nationals are also included in the cost for each student.

There are additional purchases you will need to make the first year including \$42 for marching shoes (Dinkles) and you will need to provide knee-high all black compression socks, which can be found at local retailers including Walmart, Meijer and on Amazon. Compression socks generally run about \$10. Color Guard can expect to purchase shoes, gloves, body suit and makeup.

Donations

We do ask for some additional donations during the season (see below).

- Water/Gatorade (July) - Everyone will be asked to donate a case of water and one case of Gatorade; this supplies important hydration for the students at away camp, all games and competitions for the season.
- After States Party – various food items, Ice cream, ice cream toppings and cakes.
- Nationals (or applicable event) snacks – bulk snacks for the kids.
- Banquet - Cake donations.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

It takes lots of hands to make this band work. Pitch in and have some fun! There are always opportunities to get involved...as much or as little as you want.

Visit <https://wlbands.membershiptoolkit.com/> for volunteering opportunities and watch for sign-up genius links throughout the season.

Chaperones/Competitions

Adult Chaperones are needed for all competitions. They travel with the students on the buses and supervise throughout the day. We need chaperones for the local competitions as well as Regionals, States at Ford Field, Detroit and Nationals in Indianapolis or other special events. Some events involve overseeing a small group of students and traveling with them by coach bus. Chaperones usually share hotel rooms and are responsible for their hotel lodging. It's a lot of fun and a great way to meet band families! To chaperone, you must complete a current year background form. Contact a Marching Band Board member for more information, or sign up via <https://wlbands.membershiptoolkit.com/>

Fundraising

See the Fundraising section below for more information on our fundraising opportunities. We do need all parents on hand for the car wash and the preview show. Besides Bingo, these are our biggest fundraisers. You can help behind the scenes or at the event. The time commitment is a few hours for each event.

Pit Crew

Every year the band designs and creates "props" that enhance the show as well as the band's image on the field. Props can be made by parents but have also been outsourced at times. This is a very important job in which dads and/or moms can partake. Consider becoming a part of the "Pit Crew" that builds the props and moves them on and off the field for each performance. No experience necessary!

Sewing Crew

At times we need parents with sewing skills to help make flags, props or costume accessories. If you have some experience and would like to help, please contact a Marching Band Board member.

Food Servers

During performances, competitions and home football games, the marching band is fed. Food servers are needed throughout the season to help feed the kids. To volunteer, visit the Volunteer page in <https://wlbands.membershiptoolkit.com/>

REHEARSALS

Summer Rehearsals (At Home Camp)

At Home Camp starts the week after school is out. This is a daily practice held at WLC for one week and runs from 9:45am - to 4:15pm.

Summer Rehearsal starts at the end of July. Students will have band rehearsal Monday-Friday until school starts (with a couple days off for Labor Day). Please see the calendar for exact dates and time. During these summer rehearsals, the students will be both inside the school and outside in the summer heat and sun. Important reminders for Summer Rehearsals are as follows:

- Students NEED to bring a large insulated thermos with water every day; refills are provided
- Apply and reapply sunscreen
- Eat a good breakfast and bring a healthy lunch, snack
- PARENTS are needed during these practices and there will be a signup through Signup Genius for each day. Parents help with water, medical supplies and supervision. When you volunteer for practices, bring a chair, hat, lunch and refreshments.

School Rehearsal Schedule

The full rehearsal schedule is posted on at:

<https://wlbands.membershiptoolkit.com/marching-band-calendar>

Practicing at Home

The Marching Band is not audition-based and all students, regardless of their ability, are welcomed to join the band. If your student's music skills need additional enrichment or if they have just learned their current instrument, there are several alternatives such as private music lessons, extra help from section leaders or upper classmen, and the classic . . . *practice, practice, practice*. This year, students will also be practicing at home with the Smart Music program online. Mr. Rogers and Mr. Dudzinski are more than willing to help any student who expresses a need so don't be shy!

Away Camp

Away Band Camp is held at Camp Nissokone (YMCA Camp) in Oscoda, Michigan.

All Marching Band students must attend Band Camp. This is where the bulk of the instruction occurs. They learn to march, begin to learn the music, and bond with each other...*this is where the team is built!* If there is a major issue with your student attending Band Camp, please discuss with Mr. Rogers or Mr. Dudzinski.

Every year, members name Band Camp as one of their favorite things about marching band. They will work hard and play hard. They will form friendships that will last forever. They will be silly and serious. They will grow as individuals and as a **team**.

If you would like to share this amazing experience as a chaperone, please contact the Marching Band Director of Camp at wlcmbCampDirector@gmail.com to chaperone!

Attendance Policy

Marching Band, while extraordinary in that it meets outside of normal school hours, is a class at Walled Lake Central. A parent or guardian must call in absences, preferably before the start of practice and students should text their section leader.

- Mr. Rogers' Office Phone (248) 956-4754 DavidRogers@wlcsd.org
- Mr. Dudzinski's office phone (248) 956-4541 patrickdudzinski@wlcsd.org
- Color Guard members contact Seth Williams at sethchristopher879@gmail.com
- Percussion contact Nick Pourcho (517) 449-4579 nickpourcho@wlcsd.org

If an absence is not excused in advance, all attempts will be made to make a phone call home to alert the parent that their child was not present at rehearsal. Due to the size of the band and the student-to-teacher ratio, this may not happen.

If you have a conflict with a practice or performance. Please contact Mr. Rodgers or Mr. Dudzinski well in advance of the date whenever possible.

Two unexcused absences is grounds for removal from the team.

FUNDRAISING

Bingo

Bingo is a major fundraiser for the band and has the potential to significantly reduce band bills. There are times when we need additional workers to continue this lucrative fundraiser.

The marching band conducts Bingo sessions every Tuesday and Saturday night in Waterford. There are times when volunteers are needed. In return for your commitment, you will be paid \$50 for each session worked. Since this is a weekly event, you could earn significant money towards future band bills, WLP, Winter Guard, or just cash in your pocket, (you will be paid in cash the night you work).

The requirements to work bingo are:

- You must be available to be at Bingo (Bingo City, 4443 Dixie Highway, Waterford) no later than 4:30pm on the Tuesday or Saturday night you are working, and work until the end of the session (generally around 10:00pm).
- You must be at least 18 years of age.

Once you arrive, a Bingo Chair will train you on everything you need to know. You will either be selling tickets on the floor or counting money in the office. Wear comfortable shoes because you will do a lot of walking. This is also a great way to meet other band parents.

Car Wash

Another major fundraiser for the Marching Band is the annual car wash. This is held on a Saturday at the Shepherd of the Lakes Church located at 2905 S. Commerce Rd. (across the street from WLC tennis courts) from 10am– 7pm. All Marching Band members must sign up to work a shift in addition to selling tickets in advance of the event. We ask every parent to also sign-up for a shift on Charms to help this day run smoothly. The day is split into three shifts, morning, afternoon and early evening. Students should wear their white band t-shirt. For more information contact the Car Wash chairperson in the list at the beginning of this guide.

Preview Show

Our Marching Band hosts this annual fundraising event. There is organizing and shopping to be done in advance and on the day of the event, ticket sales at the gate, parking assistance, grilling, concessions and more.

Daily 4 Lottery – and easy sell!

Each day in October or November, the winning Michigan Lottery Evening Daily 4 number, will be the winning ticket number for the day. You could win up to \$150 if your number is drawn!

Each ticket purchased has the possibility of winning every day of that month, with the exception of Sundays. If the Daily 4 number corresponds to an unsold ticket, a random drawing of sold tickets will occur. Tickets will be \$10 each and we are asking each band member to sell 10 tickets. We will need everyone's participation, for this fundraiser to be a success! Watch for more information to arrive in July.

Other fundraising opportunities

You can also help our Marching Band receive rebates whenever you shop at Kroger and Amazon!

For questions about using the Kroger or Amazon rewards programs, send an email to wlcbands@gmail.com.

PERFORMING/COMPETITIONS

Friends & Family Show

This is an end of summer rehearsal for friends and family to come and enjoy. The band will perform their prepared show to date. This is always fun to see how far they have come. Please note, the show will not be finished at this point and will continue to evolve over the next few months.

Preview Show

Each year, we invite the following schools to participate in a preview show held for the upcoming season: Walled Lake Northern, Waterford Kettering and Waterford Mott. As the host, Walled Lake Marching Band performs last. This is our fundraiser and a great way to see the local high schools' marching bands.

Football Games

Our general schedule for home football games is:

2:50 – 5:00pm	Rehearsal
5:00pm	Dinner Break – dinner will be provided!
6:45pm	Pre-game performance **IN UNIFORM**
7:00pm	Football Game (Marching Band performs in pre-game and at halftime)

After halftime, we invite all Marching Band members to stay and be part of the “spirit band” to play during the second half. It is a lot of fun! If band members decide not to stay, they should report to the band room to clean up following halftime and then they are excused.

The home football game schedule can be found on each band’s website.

WLC Band members should bring their complete uniforms with them to school on game day. Shorts and the white band t-shirt are worn under the uniform. Parents, please help your child be responsible for getting their uniform (jacket, bibbers, gauntlets, hat, black socks, shorts, white band shirt and marching shoes) to practice that day. We have no replacement items if something is forgotten. Guard section will be in all opaque form-fitting black outfit with neat, low pony until uniforms arrive.

WLW Band members should bring their gray uniform shirt, shorts, black socks, and marching shoes to school. Uniforms are kept at school.

If parents are planning on attending any home or away football games this season, you will need to purchase tickets at the gate. You can also purchase a season athletic pass through the district on Skyward Family Access and these are good at all WL athletic events.

Local Competitions

As part of the preparation for larger events, the band participates in Saturday competitions throughout the season. These Saturdays are busy and begin with early with practice before the event, travel to the venue, performance and awards. Upon returning the trailers are unloaded and Mr. Rogers will review the performance with students in the band room. Students are transported via school busses to local competitions; for out of state competitions charter busses are used. This is a long day and students should prepare accordingly. Usually the kids are provided one meal before they leave for performing. The local competition schedule can be found on the Cut Time site calendar.

Regional Competition (BOA)

The Regional competition this year will be held in Toledo, Ohio on Oct. 2 and is an all-day event. Students and chaperones will take charter busses. Information for entry and performance times will be updated at a parent meeting and in the Band Buzz. Our band usually performs for their divisions and again for the finals. Once again, please note that the show will not be finished at this point but is still a work in progress.

Memorabilia

Students may purchase a Regionals or show patch every year for their Varsity jacket. Regionals t-shirts are also available for purchase at the venue; many of the students like to wear them to school on the following Monday.

MCBA Scoring

At a MCBA (Michigan Competing Bands Association) competition, bands are scored utilizing constructed judging sheets and criteria. Seven adjudicators are utilized in the scoring system. You will see people walking on the field during the performance. Don't be alarmed! They are judges and will be seen speaking into small recorders during the competition. The scoring is assessed as follows:

Criteria Being Assessed	Percentage of Total Score
Music Field Judge	10%
Music Ensemble Judge	20%
Visual Field Judge	10%
Visual Ensemble Judge	20%
Music General Effect Judge	20%
Visual General Effect Judge	20%
Total Possible Score	100%

At each MCBA competition, in addition to the overall winner, there is a winner selected in each of three categories (also known as captions): **Music**, **Visual**, and **General Effect**.

In the spring of each year, MCBA member bands are divided into four flights of competition based upon MHSAA High School enrollment numbers that are based on the state of Michigan second semester count. The flights are equalized in size (number of bands) as much a possible per MCBA rules.

Bands advance into the MCBA State Championship Contest based on three criteria:

1. A band must compete in a minimum of two MCBA sanctioned contests. (MCBA sanctions an average of 20 contests per year).
2. A band must apply to participate in the championship contest and pay a \$150.00 application fee.
3. A band must achieve scores at MCBA sanctioned contests that place it among the twelve (12) highest scoring bands in its flight competition. MCBA averages a band's two highest scores posted during the competition season to come up with a Championship Average Score or CAS.

For more information, see the MCBA By-laws, Rules, Judging Sheets, & Standard Operating Procedures at <http://www.themcba.org/theMCBA.org/Organization.html>.

MCBA State Championships

Our marching band season in MCBA competitive events culminates with our participation in the MCBA State Championships. The State Championships are held at Ford Field in Detroit, Michigan. Each flight has a set time to perform. More details will be provided as we get closer to the event.

Tickets are required for entry into the competition. Adult tickets are approximately \$20 while students and seniors are \$15 (all amounts subject to change). Tickets are available the day of the event at Ford Field and only cash is accepted. Ticket booths open at 7am and entry into the stadium begins at 7:15am.

For MCBA at Ford Field information, visit <http://www.themcba.org/theMCBA.org/Championship.html>.

Memorabilia

MCBA Patch (approx. \$5.00) – You can purchase this for your student's Varsity Jacket (or hoodie) if you'd like. They will receive a rocker patch (no-charge) from Mr. Rogers / Mr. Dudzinski with the year on it for each season we participate in the Finals.

- MCBA State Finals T-shirts and sweatshirts are also available to purchase.
- MCBA Pins available for \$10.
- Mr. Video will be taking orders for DVD's of the Finals. These can also be ordered after the event through the band at a substantial discount.

Spirit Signs

A fun parent tradition that we share is making spirit signs for the band and placing them on the road along the local bus route the team travels to the State Finals. The kids really enjoy seeing them along the way and it helps to pump them up! Signs can be made out of cardboard, foam core, or whatever your imagination comes up with! Please only encouraging, positive sentiments!

You are responsible for placing the signs and removing them. Be sure to place your signs prior to the busses leaving, so the kids can enjoy them. Busses will leave the school and go east on Oakley Park to Welch where they will head south (right turn) down to 14 Mile Road where they will head east and enter M5 at 14 Mile. This route is the safest for our busses and students.

All signs MUST be removed by the time we arrive home Saturday night.

Scoring & Grouping

For information on scoring and grouping, see the Regionals section of this guide.

Nationals

BOA Nationals are held yearly in Indianapolis, Indiana after the regular Marching Band season. Nationals are not a regular, yearly event for the Marching Band, so it can be an exciting time to spend together as a group and see other top national bands perform. Parents, family members and friends can attend the event and purchase tickets at the stadium. If you cannot attend this event, you can livestream the weekend on Flomarching.com. Additional details about times, lodging, etc. will be presented at a parent meeting.

At a BOA (Bands of America) competition, bands are scored utilizing a different scoring system. The weight of the number's places 60 percent of the value on music and 40 percent on visual, as well as 60 percent on general effect and 40 percent on performance. Each judge is assigned a specific area on which he or she focuses, ensemble and general effect judges are located at a vantage point from above (i.e. press box) and individual performance judges are located on the field.

Criteria Being Assessed	Available Points
Music Performance (Individual)*	20
Music Performance (Ensemble)*	20
Visual Performance (Individual)*	20
Visual Performance (Ensemble)*	20
Visual General Effect	20
Music General Effect	40
Less Timing and Penalties	
Total Possible	100

*Averaged

BOA competitions utilize classes based on enrollment. Enrollment for classification is based on all students in a school in grades 10-12, using the same numbers that determine funding at the state level for each school:

- A - 600 or less
- AA - 601 – 1225
- AAA - 1226 - 1674
- AAAA - 1675 and above

For more information, see the Bands of America Official Procedures and Adjudication Handbook at [http://www.musicforall.org/images/PDFs/2017/Fall/Rulebook/2017_Rulebook - FINAL.pdf](http://www.musicforall.org/images/PDFs/2017/Fall/Rulebook/2017_Rulebook_-_FINAL.pdf)

UNIFORMS

Our Marching Band members need to look their best at all competitions. The Band is judged on uniform appearance. Students must look in top shape from the time they enter the field.

2021 Marching Band Uniform Information

Each band member will be issued a uniform in good condition with as comfortable as fit as possible. The value of the uniform is more than \$400. WLC requires a one-time \$50 deposit to be paid to the high school at registration in August, refundable at the end of the member's participation, upon return of all items, with damages deducted. Uniforms must be returned or the full \$400 will be added to your students account and must be paid prior to graduation.

Uniform fittings will take place during the home camp in June. When a uniform is issued to a band member, proper wear, care and cleaning must be demonstrated, and information will be sent home detailing the same. Cleaning instructions are listed below and, on the website, (www.wlcbands.com/marching-band.html). Each piece of the uniform is numbered, and these will be recorded along with a contract signed by the band member and his/her parent. A schedule for fittings will be announced.

The Marching Band uniform consists of a waist jacket, gauntlets (cuff bands), bibbers (trousers), shako (hat) with feathered plume, as well as a navy garment bag and bucket or duffel bag for uniform transport. These pieces are provided by the school district, white gloves are required for most students with the first pair included in your fees. Students will be provided with one Marching Band white t-shirt (WLC spirit band), gray t-shirt (WLW spirit band) and a gray t-shirt (competitive band) the cost of which is included in band fees. This must be worn under the uniform for all performances (football games and competitions).

It is recommended that you purchase at least one extra t-shirt to have on hand (\$10). Each band member must provide their own knee-high black compression socks, thermal wear (it gets cold), and if needed, replacement white gloves (\$3/pair). Replacement pieces are available in the band room prior to each event.

Incoming band members will also be fitted for black marching shoes (Dinkles). Please do not go out and buy these on your own. The band director has chosen a specific type of shoe, and we place a large order with a company that specializes in band accessories. Last season we were able to provide new shoes for \$42 a pair. Shoe orders are taken at registration and an order form can be sent home if needed. The deadline for ordering will be emailed during the summer.

Color Guard apparel consists of the designated costume for the year. The costume value is approximately \$150. Color Guard members also purchase specific dance shoes for approximately \$52 and warm-up suits, at a cost to the student of approximately \$80, which students keep. Questions about Color Guard uniforms should be directed to the parent volunteer for Color Guard.

The “Care and Keeping” of our Uniforms

An “All About Your Uniform” brochure will be included in your student’s garment bag or bucket when it is issued. This brochure provides a recap of which items they have been assigned, cleaning instructions, adjustment instructions and expected behavior while in uniform.

Uniform Adjustments

- The Bibbers (pants) must be hemmed before their first use. Some bibbers have snaps along the seams but still may need to be tacked in order for the hem to not sag. **DO NOT CUT THE FABRIC** – fold it up. You can open the seams at the sides to allow the hem to lay flat. **DO NOT USE HEM TAPE.** The pant leg should rest on the top of the Dinkles.
- Jacket sleeve length can be adjusted by utilizing the snaps sewn inside each wrist.
- Do not make permanent alterations to the uniform. Consult with the Uniform Chair, if needed.

Uniform Cleaning

Our Marching Band Uniforms were brand new for the 2007 season. We must get many seasons out of them. Please follow the manufacturer recommended guidelines:

- The uniforms are washable and **should not be dry-cleaned**. We strongly encourage that the jackets and gauntlets are washed in mesh laundry bags (like a lingerie bag) or turned inside-out. This works great and helps preserve the uniform by protecting the brass buttons from being scratched.
- Wash jacket and bibbers separately on delicate cycle. Pour liquid Tide (detergent with no additives) in wash, add cold water, then add the garment and set on permanent press cycle. Pre-treat collar, sleeve or front stains with Spray and Wash stain stick/spray or Oxi Clean spray.
- Dry jacket and bibbers separately on permanent press setting.
- Remove jacket from dryer after 5 minutes and hang to dry overnight. Remove bibbers after 5 minutes in the dryer and hang with seams together, folded over hanger, to dry overnight.
- Gauntlets can be spot cleaned as needed. They can also be washed on delicate cycle in a mesh laundry bag or a zipped pillowcase with cold water and Tide. Do not place in dryer, it is best to Velcro them together over a hanger and allow them to dry. Store flat, Velcroed together, when dry, store in pouch of the garment bag.
- Use wooden or plastic hangers.
- Do not use bleach or bleach alternative of any kind. Do not dry clean.
- Store uniforms out of garment bag when at home.

Our Band practices many hours to deliver their incredible performances. Please remember to take time to make sure your uniform looks incredible too! It is important to look as good as we sound and march!

Contact our Uniform Chairperson(s) with any questions or concerns.

Spirit Wear

- Marching Band Spirit Wear is available for order at registration through June. You can only order at this time so plan for the season. Many parents wear their band spirit wear to competitions and football games.
- The annual show shirt design items (i.e. t-shirts, patches, car decals) will also be available for purchase in late July or Early August.

CELEBRATIONS

After Competitions

It is tradition for parents to clap the kids off the buses after every competition, let them know we appreciate their hard work and dedication. Also, after regionals, states and nationals the kids wear the jersey from the event if purchased.

After States Party

Our annual After-States Party is typically held after the band members return from the State Championship. We may ask families to donate items for this event. Please refer to Membership Toolkit or details and donation/volunteer opportunities. Families and alumni are always invited. Cake and ice cream sundaes will be served! This is a fun family event where we celebrate our State performance and watch the current year's and past performances.

Banquet

The marching band typically celebrates the end of the season with an event. More details will be shared throughout the season as those plans are determined.

WHO'S WHO?

Drum Majors a.k.a. Command Personnel a.k.a. Field Commanders

The ones who "direct" the marching band on the field. They are senior (and sometime junior) band members and are responsible for making sure the band members are ready to go and are prepared for practice. They are chosen by and report to Mr. Rogers/Mr. Dudzinski.

Section Leaders

Student band members responsible for the students in their section. Basically, each type of instrument is a "section" and has its own section leader, voted in by sophomore/junior/senior members of that section. The section leaders are responsible for making sure the students in their section know the music and the marching. They report directly to the drum majors. The Color Guard is a section and is part of the marching band. Their leaders are chosen by popular vote of the section members.

Squad Leaders

Student band members who are responsible for assisting the section leaders in leading their section. They are chosen by popular vote of the section members.

Winter Guard

The Walled Lake Winter Guard is an indoor performing arts activity involving only Color Guard. There are no wind instruments or percussion involved in these productions. Music is played over a sound system. Like the Marching Band, a production is created, perfected, and the team travels around the state and the country competing against other groups. Performances occur in high school gymnasiums or college arenas. The season typically runs from the end of November until the middle of April, with competitions starting in February. Winter Guard is a district-wide program. Students in 9 – 12 grade that attend Central, Western and Northern are invited to audition. No experience is necessary!

WLP (Walled Lake Percussion)

WLP is a competitive marching percussion ensemble. It is very similar to Marching Band but does not include wind instruments and Color Guard. WLP learns and perfects the same show throughout the season. There are two sections involved: the front ensemble and the battery.

Acronyms & Other Terms

[BOA](#) - Bands of America

[MCBA](#) - Michigan Competing Bands Association

[MSBOA](#) - Michigan State Band & Orchestra Association

[WGI](#) - Winter Guard International

[MCGC](#) - Michigan Color Guard Circuit

[DCI](#) - Drum Corps International

PIT – This group of musicians typically play stationary percussion instruments, such as marimbas and the rack.

BATTERY – These are the marching drummers (think Energizer bunny...battery...get it?) a.k.a. drumline.

SECTIONAL – Refers to a practice held with one section of the band

SHOW SHIRT – Each season, there is a "show shirt" designed specifically for that year's show. In addition to general marching band merchandise a.k.a. "spirit wear," you can also order merchandise with this "show shirt" design.

MTX: The official marching band shoes (a.k.a. Dinkles)

GAUNTLETS: The lovely white cuffs that members wear over their uniforms...keep them clean!