

WINDTHORST INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

# WINDTHORST HIGH SCHOOL BAND HANDBOOK 2020-2021

MRS. JUDY HALE, DIRECTOR



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## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Windthorst High School Band is an organization that strives to model the highest levels of musicianship through self-discipline, responsibility, comment, fellowship, pride, loyalty to the school and district, and ultimately create a living example of music's important role in the development of the human spirit.

## **BAND ATTITUDE**

As a member of the Windthorst Varsity Band, I will have a dedication to excellence in:

<i>Tone</i>	<i>Intonation</i>	<i>Blend</i>
<i>Balance</i>	<i>Marching</i>	<i>Conduct</i>
<i>Cooperation</i>	<i>Uniformity</i>	<i><u>PRIDE</u></i>

## **Music is a means of communication that plays a vital role in an individual's development. The Windthorst Trojan Band:**

- Provides an environment that develops musical skills through individual and group performances.
- Provides performance experiences which develop creative self-expression.
- Provides an instructional music program, which provides opportunities for a personal vision with high expectations, development of mental and physical discipline, cultural growth, and citizenship through group endeavor.

## **MAKING A COMMITMENT**

In order to be a member of a performing group, each person must decide if he or she wants to make the commitment of time and dedication. For all school activities, the faculty and administration work together to ensure that students have the opportunities to participate in many different activities. However, non-school activities must not interfere with the student's commitment to Band and to the other members of the organization. Please do not register for Band unless you are willing to make this commitment.

## **THE IMPORTANCE OF DISCIPLINE**

Because of the nature of the organization, Band discipline is a must. Band students and parents must be willing to accept the ideals, principles, and rules of the organization. Because Band members are on display, not only in our community, but in other communities as we travel to perform, each student must be aware of the importance of good behavior. Students should remember that they represent the Band, the school, and the community whenever they perform publicly. Any misconduct casts a direct reflection on them, the Band, the school, and community, and may undo the good work of hundreds of loyal students. A good Band is built on discipline.

*IN ORDER TO GIVE THE HIGHEST QUALITY PERFORMANCE, WE MUST ALL LEARN TO WORK TOGETHER, PRACTICE TOGETHER, AND GET ALONG WITH EACH OTHER.*

## Welcome Message to the Parents...

I welcome you and your child to the 2020-2021 Windthorst Varsity Band. There are few organizations of any kind so rich in tradition and success that also include so many real-world experiences for students and parents alike. I hope you will encourage your child to work hard, but also to have fun! Band is really a wonderful experience that your child will benefit from exponentially. My goal is to encourage creative thought and foster independent, critical thinking. Anywhere you go, everyone knows that the band students are the best and the brightest! The WHS Band provides musical activities that encompass a wide scope and allows everyone a chance to reach the highest possible level of success.

While the musical activities are the core of our program, the total band experience provides the student far more opportunities. We strive to have an environment where all members of the band are included. No student is left behind.

The cornerstone and legacy of the WHS Band program is striving for excellence through dedication, learning, experience, and a team effort from students, parents, and staff. The 2020-2021 year looks to be an exciting opportunity to build on that legacy. It is also important to note that one side benefit to the total band experience is the fun and lasting relationships and memories that are developed by both students and parents. Hard-working students, dedicated staff, involved and active parents, and a supportive administration and community all combine to make it possible for the WHS Band Program to offer an outstanding array of musical opportunities. Our students are expected to set and reach high goals for themselves and their program, and the rewards of meeting those expectations are immeasurable. Members of the WHS Band develop musically, emotionally, mentally, and socially.

This handbook is intended to be used by students, parents, administrators, staff, and director as a convenient source of information regarding the varied aspects of the Band. I have tried to cover as thoroughly as possible every facet of the program. The line of communication is always open if you should have a problem, question or would just like to talk. I do encourage you to visit our rehearsals at any time and encourage you to see the band perform whenever possible.

Students and parents should read this handbook carefully and must sign and return the agreement on the last page upon becoming a member of the WHS Band each year. Band members will be expected to understand and abide by all rules and regulations set forth in this book and by the district.

If you have any questions concerning our program, please know that I am available to discuss them with you. Thank you for your time and for caring about the Windthorst Varsity Band Program.

Sincerely,  
*Mrs. Judy Hale*

## Welcome Message to the Students...

This band means a great deal to a lot of people who have been a part of it, either over the years or for just a short time. It is my sincere hope that you will find many long-lasting friendships, learn to respect those around you, and feel a tremendous sense of pride in a job well done through membership in the Windthorst Varsity Band. I do not expect every person in the band to be a virtuoso musician or performer, even though some of our band members may fall into that category. I do expect mature and responsible attitudes, actions and lots of hard work from **EVERYONE!**

By accepting membership in the WHS Band Program you agree to perform to the best of your abilities and to work together with the band director in making this year's band the finest musical organization our combined efforts can produce.

Some of the qualities necessary to reach this goal are as follows:

- Report promptly to all rehearsals, classes and performances.
  - To be on time is to be present at least 10 minutes before a scheduled event.  
*To be early is to be on time, to be on time is to be late, to be late is not acceptable.*
- Practice sufficiently to be able to perform your part well.
  - **Students** practice it over and over again to get it right – **Musicians** practice it over and over again to make it music.
- Give it your "best shot" every time, all of the time. As long as you have a positive attitude and are trying we will progress.

This handbook is designed to help you understand the concepts and policies of a very proud organization. I hope this handbook can be used to answer questions and guide you through our very busy year. It will be a helpful guide for defining the boundaries that are important in keeping the Windthorst Varsity Band an efficient ensemble. If utilized properly, responsibility, team work and good citizenship will be developed as each student experiences the world of music.

Have a Fantastic Year,

*Mrs. Judy Hale*

## Teamwork...

Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.

- Henry Ford

## I. Course Descriptions

**Windthorst Varsity Band Program** – This is an advanced band which is made up of students who have attained a high degree of proficiency on their instrument. Members of this organization will perform at UIL competitions, contests, and concerts and should be prepared to spend time outside the school day preparing for these performances (all year). Student's selection to this class will be greatly influenced by the student's past record of personal discipline, dedication, sense of commitment and their ability to function as a member of a team. Elements of music are approached through exercises of increasing difficulty which present challenging, interesting and enriching activities. Individual and group contests are extremely important and provide competitive opportunities for students to receive constructive criticism from adjudicators outside the district. The first semester of this year long course is primarily focused on Marching Band performance and techniques. The second semester of studies will include concert band literature and will focus on individual performance improvement. Students are expected to come to a minimum of *one rehearsal* per week **OUTSIDE** of the classroom through the end of marching season (early November) and attend all football games, parades, concerts and competitions. Students not complying with the class requirements or not maintaining performance standards or discipline levels commensurate with an honors class will be removed from the program at the earliest opportunity. Students are required to sign a contract with a parental endorsement acknowledging that they understand and will comply with the standards and requirements for this performing ensemble. Please remember, that in signing up for band, you are making a commitment to contribute to the organization. You are expected to follow through on your commitment.

## II. **GENERAL CLASSROOM CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE**

Every successful organization has a set of rules that it must follow. If it does not, it is likely success will not be forthcoming. I expect our band to be the most disciplined band we encounter all year. I have a zero tolerance policy on disruptive behavior. I will enforce the Windthorst ISD policies and follow those procedures and consequences. Being a member of the Trojan Band is a privilege and I reserve the right to remove from the band any student who displays undesirable behaviors and attitudes. The following rules and regulations apply to everyone in band, and are simply to insure that the WHS Band becomes one of the best bands in Texas.

### A. **General Guidelines.**

1. Behavior that interferes with what we are trying to accomplish will not be tolerated. Talking is not allowed when it interferes with your responsibility, or interferes with another person's responsibility to the music or show. The director tries to give ample time for socializing before and after rehearsals.
2. No gum is allowed in the band hall. No food or drinks will be allowed during the school day except for water. Other drinks and food may be permitted in the band hall after school and before evening rehearsals at the *director's* discretion. Loss of this privilege will result if the band hall is not kept clean and free of all trash and food.
3. Do not touch property or instruments of others. This includes all percussion equipment. If you are observed touching anything that does not belong to you, you become responsible for anything that might happen to it.
4. Always have the equipment necessary to fulfill your responsibility. That includes instrument, music, pencil, reeds, valve oil, etc.

5. You may do homework in band ONLY when told to bring something to study. Any other time is inappropriate unless prior approval is granted.
6. No student is allowed to touch the stereo or recording system.

#### **B. Conduct.**

1. Because of the many contacts a band member makes in public, he/she must act as a goodwill ambassador for the school. It is expected and requested that each student act like a lady or gentleman at all times. Polite and courteous behavior is a credit to the organization and to the school. I will not tolerate vulgar language or any comments that could be construed as racist/sexist or degrading to any individual!
2. Band members are encouraged to cultivate an attitude of good discipline and attention during rehearsals. Each rehearsal should be a musical learning experience for each student. Each performance can only be as good as its best rehearsal. Constant misbehavior by any student in rehearsals shows lack of interest and respect to the band and therefore that student should find another place or activity to hold their attention.

#### **C. Respect for Property.**

1. NO ONE is allowed to use anyone else's property or to play on anyone else's instrument.
2. NO ONE is to use school equipment unless it is checked out to that person or unless the director is present and has given permission. If a school instrument is checked out to you, you will be responsible for its playing condition, which may include repairs to the instrument or case. The instrument will be checked out in good playing condition. Please see our instrument rental agreement for further information.
3. Any intentional destruction of property may be grounds for dismissal from the program and a referral to the school principal for further disciplinary action.
4. Use only pencils to mark on ORIGINAL music and textbooks.
5. Be careful when moving equipment so as not to scar it or the floors. Never write on the walls, stands, chairs, signs or posters.
6. Any instrument that needs repair work should be brought to the director's attention immediately.
7. Keep this in mind, "If I touch it, I am responsible for it!"

#### **D. Tidiness**

1. Do not leave trash on the floor or around/on your stand.
2. After rehearsal put everything away in its designated spot. All instruments must be placed in their cases (including marching percussion equipment) and placed in your locker or the appropriate shelf. Points will be deducted from your grade for failure to adhere to this policy.
3. If you need to move a chair, stand, table, etc., put it back when you are finished.
4. Keep trash out of the lockers and storage areas at all times.
5. Treat the band hall as if it were the band director's home. Remember – I am here many hours a day working for you. I am your band director, not your Mom – clean up after yourself!

#### **E. Classroom Procedures**

1. Always raise your hand to be acknowledged.
2. No questions will be answered while others are talking.
3. RESPECT THE PODIUM. When the director is on the podium, do not talk.
4. When the director leaves the podium students may talk quietly. The conversations should be pertinent to the day's lesson and not about the latest gossip.

5. Do not play your instrument before or after class. We will all warm-up together properly. After class you will need to put your equipment up quickly and go to your next class.
6. Do not get up once seated for class, rehearsal or performance unless acknowledged by the band director or in case of an emergency.
7. Do not put instruments in cases until the band director dismisses class.
8. Do not repair or clean instruments during class or rehearsal time.
9. Take care of personal business before or after a rehearsal or practice session.
10. Have a pencil handy for every rehearsal. Return pencils borrowed to the pencil box. These borrowed pencils are purchased by your loving band director. Her family did not eat for a week so that she could afford a pencil for you! LOL! PUT THEM BACK WHEN YOU ARE FINISHED!
11. Everyone must have an instrument to play every day. If your instrument is sent in or left in the repair shop, make arrangements to have a loaner instrument before the next class period through the company or band director. If you are unable to play for health reasons, you must bring a note from your legal guardian stating the reason. After three missed rehearsals due to illness (not playing during class), you must bring a doctor's note stating that you could not play your instrument.
12. Reed players must have three playable reeds at all times with at least two reeds within reach when on the field, at rehearsal, performance, etc. The reeds should be marked A, B and C, and should be rotated daily.
13. Do not disassemble horns during rehearsal.
14. Brass players should have oil with you during all rehearsals.

#### F. Instrument Care

1. School instruments are very expensive and should be handled with extreme care. We are fortunate that Windthorst ISD is able to offer instruments to the majority of students who need them. It is our privilege to offer this so that every child can experience the joy of creating music.
2. Instruments will be issued the first week of school. All instruments will be issued in good mechanical condition. It is your responsibility to maintain the instrument while it is in your possession. Any damage due to negligence will be repaired at your expense. Bills not paid in a timely manner will be turned over to the Principal.
3. The school will cover repairs due to normal wear and tear of the instrument. The director and/or the repair shop will have the final say as to whether or not any repairs needed are due to normal wear and tear or are due to misuse of the instrument. If it is deemed that the repairs are due to neglect or misuse, you will be held liable for all costs for repairs.

#### G. Dress Code/Uniform

1. Band shirts, shorts and shoes will be purchased by the student yearly. The band fee for these items is outlined in our annual order form and distributed at the beginning of summer band practices. Please speak with the director if you are unable to afford this fee.
2. T-Shirts are a mandatory part of the uniform and must be worn to each performance with the uniform. Shirts will be worn in both the fall and spring semesters, so please keep shirt in good condition throughout the school year. If a student has not purchased a t-shirt, they must wear complete uniform at all functions. No exceptions.
3. Shorts must be worn under the uniform. No jeans will be allowed under uniform. Long undergarments may be worn during cold weather.
4. Band uniforms are to be handled with extreme care and pride. They are to be kept neat and clean at all times. It is to be worn with great honor, respect and pride. Uniforms will not be allowed to be taken home except under special circumstances approved by the band director.

5. The dress code for football games is complete uniform, band t-shirt, band shorts, black socks, and black polished shoes. Hats will be worn at contest and homecoming only. Gloves will be worn during the years when the band advances to State Marching Competition. If the temperature at the start of game time is 83 or above, the band will wear uniform shorts and band shirt.
6. Dress code for concerts is nice slacks or jeans and shirt for boys and nice dress, or dress slacks and shirt for girls. No shorts or T-shirts are allowed for formal concerts.

## H. ATTENDANCE POLICIES

The greatest single factor in school success is regular and punctual attendance. This is especially true for success in our Band Program. Attendance is automatically a part of membership in the Trojan Band. **GENERAL NOTES REGARDING ATTENDANCE:**

1. All Band students are required to attend all rehearsals and performances. (Repeated absences from rehearsals and performances may result the Band student being taken out of certain Band activities).
2. Lack of attendance will have a major effect on the students Band grade as follows:
  - a. Attendance at rehearsal = 100 points daily grade
  - b. Missed rehearsal excused by director = 50 points daily grade. (24 hours advance notice required unless emergency situation arises.)
  - c. Missed rehearsal unexcused by director or no advance notice = 0 points daily grade.
  - d. Missed performance excused by director = 50 points test grade (24 hours advance notice required unless emergency situation arises.)
  - e. Missed performance unexcused by director or no advance notice = 0 points test grade.

### ***PERFORMANCES may NOT be made up!***

3. Attendance and reliability will be considered when the directors make chair placement, officer selections, and Band placement.
4. **Work is not an excuse for missing a Band rehearsal or a performance.** If you have a conflict with your job it is your responsibility to fix it.
5. Certain extra-curricular activities that you might be involved in may coincide with Band activities. If this happens, please notify the Band Director immediately! There is a solution to every problem. That solution starts with the student coming in and communicating with the Director.
6. Every Band member must comply with all WISD and UIL attendance regulations in order to attend official Band functions.
7. If you have an excused absence from school, then you have are excused from official Band activities. (Please check the WISD student handbook for what the WISD School Board deems acceptable)
8. All absences from Band functions require a written note from the student's parent or legal guardian following the Band function.

## I. POLICIES FOR STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN BAND

1. Band is a participation activity. Everyone participates.
2. All students enrolled in the Windthorst Band program are required to participate in the Marching program.
3. All students are required to participate in all Band activities.
4. Students will receive grades for participation in all curricular/extracurricular performances, which take place inside/outside the school day.

5. Each Band member receives a calendar for the entire year in August. I will hold band students accountable to this calendar. Please check this calendar regularly to help avoid conflicts. Calendar is subject to change, so please keep this in mind and be flexible if we have to change a date or event.
6. Each student enrolled in Band will be provided a copy of this letter and an acknowledgment to be signed by his/her legal guardian and returned to the Director.

### **III. FOOTBALL SEASON GUIDELINES**

#### **A. Band Stands**

1. Students must sit in assigned section throughout the game.
2. Students are not allowed to leave the band unless permission is granted by the director. You will have plenty of time before each game to take bathroom breaks, get drinks, etc. I will not allow you to leave the stands to go to the bathroom except for emergency situations. Please plan ahead!
3. Students who are not members of the band will not be allowed to sit in the band section. If a friend wishes to sit with you have him/her join band!
4. Percussionist are not to play needlessly. Percussionists should play only prepared pieces to go along with the cheers or band music. Percussion equipment will be played only by those who are assigned to the instrument. Do not switch instruments during a game unless approved by the director. Non-percussionist may not touch equipment.
5. Instruments are not to be played unless under the direction of the Band Director or Drum Major.
6. Students are allowed and encouraged to play under direction with as much spirit as possible. Students are encouraged to support our team with as much noise as possible. Profane language and un-sportsman like conduct will not be tolerated at any time.
7. Be alert and prepared at all times to play at the director's signal.
8. NO food or drinks (other than water) will be allowed in the bandstands.
9. Third quarter breaks are a PRIVILEGE and not a right! Privileges will be revoked if you break any of the band guidelines. Third quarter detention may be assigned by the director or other official sponsor as needed.
10. If you are assigned third quarter detention, you MAY NOT have any food or drink during that quarter except for water. Plan ahead! Either eat before the game, or DO NOT BREAK THE RULES!

#### **B. Bus Rules**

These rules are designed to make our trips as safe as possible. You are required to follow them. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action such as loss of privilege to take trips, etc.

1. Be in your assigned seat for roll call.
2. Keep your talking at a low volume. No talking during roll call.
3. School rules and state law govern the use of all alcohol, tobacco, and drugs. All three are most certainly out of order on any school trip.
4. Courting is a private affair, and buses are not private. Use good judgment. No girls and boys sitting together after the sun sets.
5. Do not use hair spray, perfume, etc. on the buses.
6. Stay with the group at any stops.
7. Soft drinks in plastic bottles only; no glass containers on the bus.

8. Deposit all trash, gum, empty cans, and candy wrappers in trash bags – not on the floor, seats, or out of windows. Everyone is responsible for cleaning the trash out of the busses at the end of each trip. If bus is left untidy, you will lose the right to bring food and drink on the bus!
9. Stay in your seat while the bus is moving. This is STATE LAW, and failure to follow it can result in serious injury. Do not sit or stand in the aisles or on the floor.
10. Stereos must have headphones.
11. Hands, arms, etc. are not to be put out of the windows.
12. If you misbehave your name will be given to the director. Appropriate action will follow.
13. When you have a question not specifically covered by the remarks listed above, assume that the answer is “no” until you can find out for sure from the director.
14. All band students will travel with the band to events with the exception of varsity football players, volleyball girls who are playing in a game the same night as the band, and cheerleaders (for football games only). NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE ALLOWED!
15. You may ride back from an event with a legal guardian, provided:
  - a. Your PARENT or LEGAL GUARDIAN signs you out. (please note this does not say boyfriend/girlfriend, brother/sister!)
  - b. Director will begin signing students out when the game is complete. It is important that the director’s attention be focused on the game and students. Signing students out during the game is not an option. Thank you for respecting this policy!

### **C. Game Day Procedures**

It takes a lot of time, effort and energy to get ready to leave Windthorst for a football game. We must dress, practice and load all before we even think about leaving the school. We have a method of doing things that allows for this operation to be as concise and smooth as possible. We do everything step by step together. This takes time. Typical game day itinerary is as follows:

1. Before we leave Windthorst:
  - a. Change into uniform (or load them as appropriate).
  - b. Load the instrument trailer.
  - c. Load the bus.
  - d. Eat dinner in a timely manner (when provided).
2. When we return to Windthorst:
  - a. Clean the bus.
  - b. Stand in line to check in uniform (when used).
  - c. Unload the instrument truck.
  - d. Put instruments and uniforms away WHERE THEY BELONG!
  - e. Clean the Band Hall of all trash.

These are necessary steps to keep everything running orderly and smooth. Everyone is part of a TEAM. We all help each other and work together. Remember...be patient as your student does his/her job before and after games. They are learning how to work as a TEAM which, as we all know, will help them when they become adults.

### **D. Loading/Unloading Equipment**

It is the responsibility of the every band member to make sure that all of their equipment, including uniform, hat and instrument is loaded for each event. You should never depend on anyone else to load your instrument for you. Students not returning with the band MUST TAKE THEIR OWN instrument home with them (excluding percussion and tuba). Unloading is the responsibility of

every student riding back with the band. The consequence for “ducking” this responsibility will be assignment to the loading crew for a period of two weeks. If you are assigned to loading crew, you will NOT be allowed to ride home from the football game with your parents. You must travel back with the bus and unload as assigned.

#### E. Band Aides

Band aides volunteer to help the director and band parents with equipment and supplies. Aides are selected by the director. They are not here to help individual students load their equipment, retrieve “forgotten” items, or to wait on anyone. These students generously volunteer their time so that they can be a part of the greatest band in the state. Please be courteous and respectful to each student volunteer. Aides are selected on their ability to work independently, attitude, behavior and conduct during their class, and willingness to work. The director will interview potential candidates and select the aides based on the above criteria.

### IV. EARLY AND EXTRA REHEARSALS

I will make a concerted effort to keep extra rehearsals to a minimum, but **BAND WILL INCLUDE EARLY/AFTERNOON, EVENING AND OTHER EXTRA REHEARSALS**. They are necessary in order to accomplish our goals. These rehearsals are **REQUIRED**, and are part of your grade. Making arrangements to get to rehearsals, both early or extra, are the responsibility of the student. Roll will be checked at rehearsals. **REMEMBER: To be early is to be on time, to be on time is to be late, and to be late is not acceptable.**

### V. PERFORMANCES

The main reason for all of our hard work is performance. Any group that performs poorly cannot be considered one of the best in the state, no matter how large they may be. **YOU ARE EXPECTED TO BE ON TIME FOR EVERY PERFORMANCE**. Missing a performance will result in severe penalties including earning a grade of ZERO for that performance. Performances may not be made up, therefore you may not make up the ZERO for the grade given. If a student works, they are expected to adjust their work schedule in order to attend the performance. Transportation difficulties will not be considered an excuse, and should be taken care of by the student. Remember communication is key to avoiding conflicts! All problems can be worked out!

### VI. BAND TRIPS

The Windthorst Varsity Band takes trips to attend special performances and to provide additional music and cultural experiences as finances allow. They are used as educational opportunity that you would otherwise not be able to experience and reward for good work by the entire band. The following items must be noted:

A. Band trips are a privilege, not a right.

B. To be eligible to go on a trip a student must:

1. Have passed the previous six weeks in **ALL CLASSES**.
2. Competed in **BOTH UIL** Region Marching Contest and UIL Concert/Sightreading Contest unless excused by the director.
3. Earned, through fundraising, the entire cost of the trip by participating in the various fundraising activities, or paid out of pocket the balance of their trip less their fundraising activity.

- C. It is understood that the student must ride with the group to and from the destination of the band trip. The only exception will be when the student and their guardian have made prior arrangements with the director.
- D. Financial Responsibilities:
  - 1. Each band member is responsible for earning a certain amount of money to finance his/her part of the trip. Failure to do so will result in that student being required to pay the cost of the trip. If the money required for the trip is not earned or paid, the student **will not** be allowed to participate in the trip.
- E. The band will be accompanied by at least one sponsor for every fifteen students. Choosing sponsors will be the responsibility of the Band Director. Choices will be based at least partially on parent's previous contributions to the program.
- F. Along with the director, the sponsors are in charge. What they say goes.
- G. Students are NEVER allowed to venture off by themselves. You must travel in groups with a chaperone. If you can't find others to go with you, DON'T GO!
- H. Breaking rules and regulations on the trip will result in the student's activities being curtailed. If the infraction is serious enough, the student will be sent home at the parent's expense.
- I. Drugs / Alcohol: The use of illicit drugs or alcohol by members of the Windthorst Varsity Band will not be tolerated. Any instances of drug, alcohol or other contraband discovered during a trip may be handled by the director, school administration and/or LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT.

## VII. COMPETITIONS

### A. University Interscholastic League (UIL)

The University Interscholastic League (UIL) was organized to govern and monitor all Texas school athletic, speech, debate, music, drama, and academic competitions. This year we will compete in the following UIL competitions:

November 14, 2020	Region Marching Contest
TBD	Area Marching Contest
TBD	State Marching Contest
TBD	Solo/Ensemble Contest (Individual)
TBD	Concert/Sightreading Contest

### B. No Pass-No Play

No pass-no play is part of House Bill 72 that was passed by the Texas Legislature around 1984 and became Texas State Law at the beginning of the 1985-1986 school year. In order to be eligible to participate in an extracurricular activity during a six weeks period, a student must not have received a grade lower than a 70 in any course for the previous six weeks. If a student fails a course they will be ineligible for six weeks. The earliest a student may become eligible is at the end of three weeks when progress reports come out. At this time they must be passing all courses, not just the courses they had failed. They may come back and participate seven days (grace period) after the end of the three or six week's ends. Being ineligible does not excuse a student from after school practice. They are still required to attend all rehearsals. Eligibility is not just one individual's problem. Each time we lose a student due to grades, it affects the entire group. Making a commitment to the Band Program also involves each student making a commitment to pass all of his or her courses.

Activities affected by no pass-no play include:

Football Games	Marching Contest
UIL Solo/Ensemble	Concert Band Festivals
ATSSB Auditions	Band Trips
Parades	Pep Rallies

Activities NOT affected by no pass-no play include:

Concerts on Windthorst ISD Campus  
Banquets  
Before and After School Rehearsals

### C. 8-Hour Rule

In order to prevent rehearsing that was not productive for student life, UIL established the 8-hour rule. This rule simply means that the band will not rehearse more than 8 hours OUTSIDE of the school day during a calendar week.

The 8 hours do not include:

Football Games  
Rehearsals before leaving for a contest or performance  
Competitions  
Time spent traveling to or from an event

All parents and students should sign a form at the beginning of the year stating that they understand the 8-hour rule. Please see Mrs. Hale if you have any questions concerning any of these rules.

### D. The Association of Texas Small School Bands (ATSSB)

This organization was created to regulate and enforce all-state competitions and lobby in Austin to emphasize the importance of music as a core subject. For our purpose, ATSSB regulates and organizes the ALL-State competitions. This year we individuals may compete in the following ATSSB competitions.

November 10, 2020	Middle School Auditions
January 26, 2021	Middle School Clinic/Concert
December 1, 2020	High School Auditions
January 12, 2021	AREA Auditions
January 18-19, 2021	Region Band Clinic/Concert HS

### E. Individual Competitions

1. High School District, Region, Area and State Band Competition
  - a. Applies to 9<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> grade students.
  - b. Students will receive the audition music during summer band and are strongly encouraged to come in weekly for help.
  - c. Those students qualifying for the top chairs in the Region Band will advance to the Area Auditions. Those students qualifying at Area for the State Band will perform in San Antonio during the T.M.E.A. Convention in February.
2. Middle School Region Band
  - a. Applies only to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students.

- b. Students will receive the audition music within the first two weeks of school and are strongly encouraged to come in weekly for help.
- 3. Solo and Ensemble Contest
  - a. Applies to 7<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> grade students.
  - b. Students will receive the solo and/or ensemble music in October/November and are strongly encouraged to come in weekly for help. You may get extra help from me if needed.
  - c. Students may enter up to 2 events.
  - d. Student will need to secure an accompanist for this competition. See Mrs. Hale for further details.

## VIII. AWARDS AND HONORS

### A. Letter Jacket Policy

To be eligible for a letter jacket you must be a band member in good standing and have competed in at least four UIL Band Contests (including marching contest, UIL Solo/Ensemble contest, concert/sightreading contest and state solo/ensemble contests as a 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade student.

### B. Director Awards

Awards will be given each year during our Spring Concert. Awards will consist of:

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <i>*Senior Awards</i>               | <i>*8<sup>th</sup> Grade Directors Award</i> |
| <i>*Outstanding Woodwind Player</i> | <i>*High School Directors Award</i>          |
| <i>*Outstanding Brass Player</i>    | <i>*John Phillip Sousa Award</i>             |
| <i>*Outstanding Percussionist</i>   |  |

Awards and honors will be given by the director.

Criteria:

- a. The individual must have a good academic standing.
- b. The individual must not have any unexcused absences or tardies to band functions.
- c. The individual must demonstrate exceptional spirit, attitude and behavior. They are always doing the best they can and encouraging others to do better.
- d. Must participate in a minimum of one individual competition or serve in a leadership position within the band.

## IX. BAND GRADING POLICY

The grade in Band a student receives is directly affected by the student's level of participation and performance. The Band Grading policy is as follows:

### **FALL and SPRING SEMESTERS**

#### **DAILY PARTICIPATION – 40%**

Calculated daily based on these observable behaviors to your class level:

Attentiveness effort/enthusiasm

Involvement/on task behavior

Instrumental skills/musicianship

Attendance at all after-school rehearsals

Having supplies and equipment ready to play in class daily

#### **PERFORMANCE – 60%**

Attendance at all band contests, concerts, football games, pep rallies, parades, co-curricular and extra-curricular band performances, music memorization, performance examinations.

## X. BAND DATES → 2020-2021

We will follow this schedule as close as possible. Please be flexible. There could be changes and/or additions to this calendar as the year progresses. All scheduled activities are GRADED. If you do not attend, you will receive a grade of zero. There is no makeup work for missed rehearsals/performances.



# BAND CALENDAR

## 2020-2021

### August 2020

3	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade/New members	1pm-5pm
4	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade/New members	1pm-5pm
5	Full Band Camp	1pm-5pm
6	Full Band Camp	2pm-5pm
7	Full Band Camp	2pm-5pm
10	Full Band Camp	3:15-4:45pm
11	Full Band Camp	1-4PM
12	Full Band Camp	3:15-4:45pm
13	Full Band Rehearsal	3:15-4:45pm
14	PICTURES in uniform	TBA
19	Band Rehearsal	6:30-8:30pm
26	Band Rehearsal	6:30-8:30pm
28	WHS vs Henrietta (H)	Call at 5:40pm

### September 2020

2	Rehearsal	6:30-8:30pm
4	WHS vs. DeLeon (H)	Call @5:15pm
9	Rehearsal	6:30-8:30pm
11	WHS vs. Archer City (T)	
16	Rehearsal	6:30-8:30pm
18	WHS vs. Seymour (T)	
23	Rehearsal	6:30-8:30pm
25	WHS vs. City View (T)	
30	Rehearsal	6:30-8:30pm

### October 2020

2	WHS vs. Hamlin (H)	
7	Rehearsal	6:30-8:30pm
9	OPEN DATE	
14	Rehearsal	6:30-8:30pm
16	WHS vs Muenster (H)	
21	Rehearsal	6:30-8:30pm
23	WHS vs. Chico (T)	
28	Rehearsal	6:30-8:30pm
30	WHS vs. Petrolia (H)	

### November 2020

4	Rehearsal	6:30-8:30pm
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6	WHS vs. Era (T)	Call @ 4:45pm
7	Seymour Band Festival	TBA
11	Rehearsal	6-8:30pm
13	WHS Football Playoff	TBA
14	<b>Region Marching Contest</b>	TBA
18	Rehearsal	6-8:30pm
20	WHS Football Playoff	TBA
27	WHS Football Playoff	TBA

### December 2020

2	Rehearsal	6-8:30pm
3	<b>Christmas Concert</b>	6:30pm
5	<b>AREA MARCHING Contest</b>	TBA
9	Rehearsal	6-8:30pm
	State Marching Contest	TBA

### January 2021

26	<i>Band Fish Fry 1 of 3</i>	5:00-7:30pm
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### March 2021

5	Band Fish Fry 2 of 3	5:00-7:30pm
12	Band Fish Fry 3 of 3	5:00-7:30pm

### April 2021

21	<b>UIL Concert/SR Contest</b>	TBA
28	Drum Major/Leader Aud.	4pm
29	<b>Spring Band Concert</b>	6:30pm

### May 2021

23	<b>HS Graduation</b>	5:30pm
24-27	Band Trip 2021	TBA

### Band Leadership

#### Drum Majors

Caleb Schroeder Julian Castilleja

#### Captain Percussion Captain

Miriam Nolasco Delylah Sosa

#### Leadership Crew

Sophia Trejo Ciara Veitenheimer  
Kirsten Shea Marli Kermiar  
Jayden Friddle Colby Wolf

### Band Director

Mrs. Judy Hale

[judy.hale@windthorstisd.net](mailto:judy.hale@windthorstisd.net)

940.423.6690

Please leave a message

Wednesday night rehearsals and football games are required by **ALL** band members.

*Items in bold and italics are required performances for ALL band members.*

*Items in italics are for selected/auditioning students only.*

### PLEASE NOTE:

#### CALENDAR IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE!

Although I have attempted to include all events for the year, this calendar is subject to change. I will work with you whenever possible to ensure that conflicts are resolved as long as I know in ADVANCE of an issue. I will also let you know as soon as I can if the calendar has to be changed!

## XI. CLOSING STATEMENT

I feel that this manual is a very important part of establishing a well-rounded program. I hope that by utilizing this manual it will be easier for each student to understand what is expected of him/her. I also hope that the continuous use of this manual will allow the band the opportunity to become a self-governing organization. When students have the feeling that they are contributing to the leadership, self-discipline and government of the program, it fosters greater pride and self-reliance. We can only be as good as the dedication by which each individual is willing to give. I am available at any time to

help each student in any way I can to make each student a better musician. If problems or questions arise, please contact me as soon as possible.

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**Windthorst Band Hall: 940.423.6690 Mrs. Hale Cell 940.249.7523**

*Email: [judy.Hale@windthorstisd.net](mailto:judy.Hale@windthorstisd.net)*