****

**Washington-Liberty High School**

**Marching Generals**

 **Alex Robinson, Director**

**Welcome to W-L Bands and Color Guard!**

The Washington-Liberty Marching Band program is a highly successful marching band and color guard. For students and parents new to the band program there are important things to be aware of.

As marching band and color guard members, you are ambassadors for W-L High School. Please remember you are expected to follow all school rules for behavior at all times.

The marching band season is intense. This handbook will provide you with information you need to know to make it easier to manage. If you have any questions during the season, please don’t hesitate to reach out to Band Booster Leadership for guidance.

We are very excited to meet you and have you in the Marching Band!

   

**Marching Band Handbook**

**2022-2023**

**2022-23 Washington Liberty Marching Band At - A - Glance**

**Summer Marching Band Camp**

August – 8 to 9 – Band Camp - 3:00 PM – 9:00 PM

August 10 to 17 – Band Camp – 9-2 PM / 5-9 PM

August 18 to 24 – Band Camp – 5-9 PM

August 24 – Marching Band Activity Fee Due – 150.00 Standard / 75.00 Free and Reduced Lunch

**August 25 – Home Football Game – 5-10 PM**

August 30 – Marching Band – 6-9 PM

August 31 – Marching Band 3:30 – 5:30 PM

**Marching Band Performance / Practice Schedule**

**September 6 – Marching Band – 6-9 PM**

September 7 – Marching Band – 3:30 – 5:30 PM

September **8** - Marching Band – 3:30 – 5:30 PM

**September 9 – Marching Band Performance FB – 5-10 PM**

September 13 – 3:30 – 5:30 PM

**September 14 – Marching Band – 6-9 PM**

September 15 – Marching Band – 3:30 – 5:30 PM

**September 17 – Marching Band TAG DAY 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM**

September 20 – Marching Band – 3:30 – 5:30 PM

**September 21 – Marching Band – 6-9 PM**

September 22 – Marching Band – 3:30 – 5:30 PM

**September 23 – Away Football Game – Wakefield 6-10 PM**

**September 27 – Marching Band 6-9 PM**

**September 28 – Marching Band – 3:30 – 5:30 PM**

**September 29 – Marching Band – 3:30 – 5:30 PM**

October 4 – Marching Band – 3:30 – 5:30 PM

October 6 – Marching Band – 3:30- 5:30 PM

October 7 – Marching Band – 3:30 – 5:30 PM

**October 8 – Marching Band Competition – Oakton HS – TTBA**

October 11 – Marching Band – 3:30 - 5:30 PM

**October 12 – Marching Band – 6-9 PM**

October 13 – Marching Band – 3:30 – 5:30 PM

**October 14 –Marching Band @ Homecoming Game 5-10 PM**

**October 18 – Marching Band – 6-9 PM**

**October 19 – Marching Band – 3:30 – 5:30 PM**

**October 22 – Marching Band Competition – Freedom HS – TTBA**

**October 25 – Marching Band – 6-9 PM**

**October 26 – Marching Band – 3:30- 5:30 PM**

**October 26 – Arlington Marching Band Showcase at Wakefield 6-8 PM**

**October 27 – Marching Band – 6-9 PM**

**October 28 – Home Football Game 5-10 PM (MS Band Night – 8th graders only)**

**October 29 – VBODA - State Marching Band Assessment – Liberty HS**

**November 5 – Home Football Game – Yorktown HS – 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM PM**

**November 5 – Battle of the Sections**

**The Marching Band and Guard will practice on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from September 6 to November 4. The Guard and Percussion section rehearsals may be vary.**

**Please Note: This schedule subject to change. Please check the weekly schedule sent to students and parents for updates.**

**METHODS**

**List Serv**

**All communication about concerts, events, fundraising, volunteer needs, trips, and weekly schedule is given through the W-L Band Google Group.** Information comes from both Mr. Robinson and the band booster leadership. Join the listserv by going to <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/w-l-band> or contact the Webmaster directly. ***Both students AND parents should join the listserv as soon as possible.***

**Social Media or Apps**

We use the Remind app to communicate during trips.

**Directory**

We compile a directory of students in the Marching Band and Color Guard to help with car pools and contacting each other. **Please fill out the contact form so we have up-to-date information before band camp starts.**

**Website**

The Band website has information about uniforms, boosters, fundraising, contacts, and schedule. Go to the W-L High School webpage, click on “performing arts”, then on “band” or go to: [https://wl.apsva.us/welcome-to-w-l-band/](https://washingtonlee.apsva.us/welcome-to-w-l-band/).

**MARCHING BAND CAMP INFORMATION**

**Marching Band Camp and Rehearsal Required Attire:**

For band camp and afterschool rehearsals, students are required to wear:

**Navy shorts**

**Plain white T-shirt**

**Black calf-length socks**

**Sneakers/Marching Band shoes** – stored at school

**Baseball or bucket hats** if desired

**Sun block**

**Students must bring their own refillable water bottle**

**Dot Books**

All students, except pit percussion, need a small notebook for their “Dot book.” *These are distributed by Mr. Robinson.*

**Band Camp Dinners and Snacks**

Please read emails from the listserv for which days will be catered by the Boosters and which days students need to bring lunches/snacks.

**\*\* Mr. Robinson expects students to be in their seats and ready to play 15 minutes *before* any stated**

**start time \*\***

**MARCHING BAND UNIFORM/APPEARANCE EXPECTATIONS**

W-L Marching Band students are assigned uniforms to wear during the marching season. Uniforms come in set sizes and often do not fit perfectly. We match students to the best available uniform. Uniforms can be altered but the fabric MUST NOT BE CUT. Students will be fitted for their marching uniform during band camp.

Students must have natural or neutral color hair while performing with the W-L Band Department. Long hair must be tied back. Remember – One Band, One Sound.

**Informal Marching Band Attire**

Worn at events where the band does not perform, and at competitions after performing.

**Provided by W-L:**

***Marching Band T-shirt or Marching Band Sweatshirt***

Stored in the uniform room and washed by Boosters after wearing.

***Students need to provide*:**

Dark Blue jeans

Black calf-length socks

Marching Band jacket – information below

Black Marching shoes – information below

**Marching Band Show Shirt**

Students are given a Show t-shirt which is needed throughout the entire school year. These feature the Marching show theme graphic. Students are encouraged to design the Show Shirt. Submit ideas to Mr. Robinson for consideration at the beginning of Band Camp.

**Marching Band/Guard Jacket**

Students must have a Generals jacket. Completed order form and check are due the first week of band camp to ensure delivery for the start of school. Jackets may be personalized for additional cost.

**Marching Band Shoes**

All students need marching band shoes. Most students will rent used shoes (20.00) which will be fit during band camp. There will be a few students who need new shoes (40.00) which are ordered by Mr. Robinson. Sizes are taken during band camp. Shoes stay in your shoe cubby in the uniform room.

**Colder Weather Attire**

Students may wear navy or light gray knit hats while in the stands during performances. If sweatshirts are needed, they are distributed before the performance, and are collected after the event. Boosters wash sweatshirts after each wear.

**Color Guard**

The Color Guard and Color Director work together to design the uniform for the year. Color Guard students must purchase Guard jackets (similar to Band’s).

**Band Apparel Available for Purchase**

Band apparel is available online. Ordering information given through the listserv. For volunteers, merchandise can be helpful to wear when chaperoning events.

**ACTIVITY FEE AND REQUIRED PURCHASES**

**Marching Band Activity Fee**

The Marching Band activity fee is **$150** and is *due on August 24, 2022.* The fee covers uniform cleanings, competition registrations, and bus transportation to all competitions. Free and Reduced Lunch students will pay **$75.00**

**Color Guard Activity Fee**

Color Guard fee is **$225** and is also *due on August 24, 2022.*

**Band/Guard Jackets**

Students must purchase a Generals jacket. The cost ranges from $42.00 to $52.00. See the order form in the back. The completed form and payment are *due the first week of band camp.*

  

**Marching Shoes**

Used shoes cost 20.00 and new shoes cost $40.00 and are ordered by Mr. Robinson. Sizes are checked during uniform fittings. Mark size on the attached order form. Shoes stay at school in your shoe cubby in the uniform room. *Payment is due during band camp.*

 \* all checks made to: W-L Band Boosters \*

**MARCHING BAND EVENTS**

**Required attendance** for students - the band relies on every student being present to perform its show.

**Summer Sectionals**

Most instrument sections will hold rehearsals during the summer. They are organized by Section Leaders, who will send information directly to the student. These are not mandatory but are a great opportunity to meet your section and to work on the music. Students are expected to have their music memorized for the first day of Band camp.

**Marching Band Camp**

This **mandatory** camp for all Marching Band and Color Guard members is the three weeks (weekdays only) prior to the first day of school. Camp is generally six hours a day and times vary depending on availability of the game field. The schedule is announced (**via the listserv**) prior to the start of camp. Students should have the music memorized by the first day of camp. There is a performance for friends and family at the end of camp.

**Rehearsals during School- Marching Season**

Typically, marching band rehearses Tuesdays and Thursdays after school until 4:30 pm and Wednesday evenings, 6-9 pm. Mr. Robinson will announce this year’s rehearsal ties on September 1. Rehearsals are graded and mandatory, and run until mid-November – if you’re not able to attend a rehearsal you must inform Mr. Robinson.

**Arlington Marching Band Showcase**

This weeknight in mid-October is an opportunity for W-L, Yorktown, and Wakefield High Schools to perform their field shows for each other, and the Arlington community. Middle School pep bands perform tunes in the stands. It’s a fan favorite!

**Friday Night Home Football Games – September through early November, 5pm to 10pm**

The band performs the National Anthem before the game, its field show at halftime, and supports the football team with pep tunes throughout the game. Parents serve dinner (in the stands) during the third quarter. Parents work the pit crew for the show.

**Saturday Competitions**

Students and parent volunteers travel by bus to +/- 4 competitions throughout the season. Times vary, but it is often an all-day commitment. Mr. Robinson sends out the schedule and required attire **via the listserv** several days before the competition.

**Cherrydale Neighborhood Parade**

This neighborhood parade has been a tradition for many years. It takes place on a Saturday morning in September or early October.

**BAND FUNDRAISERS**

The W–L Band program holds only two fundraisers during the year – all bands and Color Guard students are required to participate in both.

**Tag Day – September**

All Marching Band and Color Guard students canvass the W-L neighborhoods asking for donations. Students always canvass in pairs and new marchers are paired with current students. Funds collected will be used for instruments, music, Color Guard costumes, scholarships, and other expenses throughout the school year. This year Tag Day is on **Saturday, September 17th.**

**Fruit and Nut Sale - October - December**

All students involved in the band program (including Jazz, Guitar and Guard) are required to sell fruit and nuts. Band students may fundraise over the minimum requirement, to pay toward their spring trip costs. Color guard raises funds for its Winter Guard program. Sales take place from early-October through mid-November. Fruit delivery and distribution takes place the last week in November. Band members also work shifts at the Holiday Bazaar. This year the Fruit and Nut Sale will start **Thursday, October 6th.**

**BAND BOOSTER PARENT INFORMATION**

The W-L Band program is a highly successful compilation of many groups: Marching Band and Color Guard, Symphonic Band, Concert Bands, Percussion Ensemble, Jazz Big Band, and Jazz Lab. We have an active parent booster system that allows these groups to operate and perform successfully! Volunteering provides a great opportunity to watch your kids while they develop and grow as performers and to meet other band parents.

**All communication is done through the W-L Bands** **listserv**. Join by going to [https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/w-l-band](https://nam01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fgroups.google.com%2Fforum%2F%23!forum%2Fw-l-band&data=02%7C01%7C%7C26075bed0ccd4cd7046e08d5e477c679%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C636666125428765394&sdata=u0HzDTkYy%2BkVHvilPj1RXGLODTkPhTcLOXum%2Fukn9ag%3D&reserved=0).

**Volunteer** needs are greatest from August until November and for fundraising events. We use Sign-Up Genius to fill needs and information is sent out on the **listserv**.

**August to Early September**

**Marching Band/Color Guard Camp** – Due to COVID restrictions, we will not be providing meals during Camp. Students will need to bring meals from home.

**September & October**

**Tag Day** - requires parents to drive students around neighborhoods from 9 to 1 pm. Parents are needed to count money when they return.

**Marching Band/Color Guard at Home Football Games** - parents needed to help with Pit Percussion logistics and to serve dinner during the 3rd quarter. Volunteers are not required to pay the entry fee into the football game.

**Marching Band Competitions (Saturdays)** - parents needed to chaperone, assist with uniforms, and assist with Pit Percussion logistics during competitions.

**November & December**

**Fruit and Nut Sales** - Each student has a quota to meet and may fundraise over the requirement to offset the cost of their Spring trip - students have even sold enough to cover the their full trip fee. All parents are needed during this fundraiser to count money, verify orders, supervise unloading of the truck and distribution of fruit and nuts to students for pickup and delivery (students deliver to their customers).

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY DETAILS**

**Marching Band Camp**

Volunteer needs include:

* + **Donations of food** - can be sent in with your child or brought in during setup of the meal.
* **Set up, serve and clean up -** Usually a 1- 2 hour commitment.
* **Uniform fitting -** assist in fitting students’ uniforms and organizing uniform bags. Several hours over several days.

**Tag Day Fundraiser**

Parents are needed to:

* **Stuff envelopes** for students to place in doors. 1-2 hours, depending on attendance.
* **Drivers** on Tag Day to move students through neighborhoods. Commitment is usually from 9 am to 1 pm.
* **Money Counters** to verify contributions brought in. Generally 12 to 2 pm, dependent on the return of the drivers.

**Home Football Games**

Parents are needed to: serve food to the Band and Guard during 3rd quarter and assist Pit with moving equipment on and off the field. These jobs include free entrance to the football game.

* **Pit Crew logistics**: move and arrange (with help of students) instruments set up at the front of the field (the pit), drum major stand, and any props needed on the field. Once performance is over, assist in breaking down and returning instruments, stand, and props to the band room. Time commitment starts prior to game to move the equipment from band room to field holding area, and then from the end of the 2nd quarter to after halftime.
* **Set up and serve dinner, water, and cookies** - during 3rd quarter of the game. Once food has been served, collect trash and make sure everything is cleaned up. Time commitment is generally limited to the 3rd quarter.
* **Donations of water and cookies** - can be dropped at the band room after school or just before the game.

**Arlington Marching Band Showcase**

Parent chaperones are needed to: assist with uniforms, load and unload equipment, and with Pit Crew logistics.

**Marching Band Competitions**

Parent chaperones are needed to: assist with uniforms, load and unload instrument/props truck, assist with Pit Crew, distribute water and snacks to students as needed, and ride the bus to and from competition (unless other arrangements are approved).

**Fruit and Nut Sale**

Parents **may** be needed to:

* **Delivery supervision** - supervise the students unloading the fruit truck. Students do all lifting and moving. Usually takes 45-60 minutes after school the day of delivery.
* **Pizza servers** - serve pizza and water to students after the fruit truck has been fully unloaded. About an hour commitment to set up, serve, and clean up.
* **Fruit and Nut distribution** - two afternoons and evenings after the fruit has been delivered. Parents supervise and verify orders before they go out the door. Students work in teams to gather orders and load in cars. Shifts last 1-2 hours.
* **Holiday Bazaar** (first Saturday in December) - assist and supervise students as they sell off the remaining stock of fruit and nuts.

Please consider choosing the “Washington-Lee Band Boosters” as your **Amazon Smile charity**. We receive portion of what you spend – at no extra cost to you – and those dollars and cents really add up!

**INSTRUMENTS**

**(Recommended Equipment)**

**FLUTES** march with Piccolos (school provides instrument)

**CLARINET**

Instrument: Buffet R13 (top of the line), E11/E12 (intermediate model)

Leblanc LX2000 (professional model), Leblanc Esprit or Sonata (intermediate)

Leblanc VSP (excellent for the price)

Mouthpiece: Vandoren B45\*

Reeds: Vandoren #3

**ALTO SAX**

Instrument: Selmer “Super Action” 80 (professional model)

Yamaha 52 or 62 (excellent instruments)

Mouthpiece: Selmer C “Star”\*

Reeds: Vandoren #3

**TENOR SAX**

**BARI SAX**

**TRUMPETS**

Instrument: Bach Stradivarius 37 (top of the line standard) or equivalent

Yamaha YTR 6345 HS or equivalent

*Instruments must have 1st and 3rd valve slides*

**FRENCH HORNS** march with Mellophones (school provides instrument)

**TROMBONE**

Instrument: Bach Stradivarius 36 or 42BO (the standard) or equivalent

Yamaha 646 or 648R (equivalent to the Bach Strad)

Conn 88H (top of the line) or equivalent

Instruments should be .547 bore with “F” attachment

**EUPHONIUM**

Instrument: Yamaha 321 (excellent, professional level 4 valve instrument) or equivalent

**TUBAS** march with Sousaphones (school provides instrument)

**DRUM LINE and PIT PERCUSSION**

Need sticks and mallets (school provides instruments)

**Instrument Purchase and Repair, Supplies**

Foxes Music

416 S. Washington Street

Falls Church, VA

703-533-7393

Music and Arts

5849 Leesburg Pike

Falls Church, VA

703-820-3610

Chuck Levin’s (Washington Music Center)

11151 Veirs Mill Road

Wheaton, MD

301-946-8808

There are other repair shops in the area. Please contact Mr. Robinson, your private teacher, or your section leader for additional information.

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**W-L Band Activity Fee, Band Jacket, Show Shirt and Shoe Order Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Jacket:**

 **Option 1**. jacket *only* with no personalization **$42**

 **Option 2**. personalization -- *name only* **$49**

**\*\****May also be printed as First Initial. Last Name due to length of name\*\**

**Please Print Clearly**

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 First Name or initial Last Name

 **Option 3:** two lines of personalization **Please Print Clearly $52**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 First Name or initial Last Name

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 Graduation Year

Please specify your size for the W-L Band/Guard Jacket (Adult unisex sizes)

\_\_\_\_\_S \_\_\_\_\_M \_\_\_\_\_L \_\_\_\_\_XL \_\_\_\_\_XXL \_\_\_\_\_XXXL

 **Due: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Show Shirt T-Shirt:**

Please specify your size for the W-L Band Show Shirts (Adult unisex sizes)

\_\_\_\_\_S \_\_\_\_\_M \_\_\_\_\_L \_\_\_\_\_XL \_\_\_\_\_XXL \_\_\_\_\_XXXL

**Used Marching Shoes (Band only): $20**

Specify size: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_men’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_women’s

\*If we don’t have your size you may need to purchase new shoes which are 40.00

 **TOTAL:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Checks made to: **W-L Band Boosters** Due: by August 24, 2022