



Yulee Hornet Bands Handbook

Marching Sound of One Mission Statement:

The Marching Sound of One is an extracurricular, competitive marching band program that strives to create an environment that is safe, educational, and performance-driven. Our mission is to musically enrich the students of Yulee High School as an ensemble, player, and person. We strive to create a domain in which students acquire an attitude for self-growth, individuality, and accountability.

Our Purpose:

The purpose of the Marching Sound of One is to cultivate a positive learning environment for the students of Yulee High School. This program is specifically intended to enrich students in the area of instrumentation and marching. This enrichment is designed to foster growth for students to reach standards of excellence as musicians, build positive relationships, and enhance their musical resumes to make connections for their future musical opportunities.

Welcome!

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the 2026-2027 season of the Marching Sound of One. We are looking forward to an exciting year! This handbook outlines schedules, policies, and responsibilities of the MS1 Band members. Please read it carefully and completely, *because all of it will apply to every member in the program all school year..* Please keep it in a place where you can refer to it easily.

Mr. Amos Walker

Director of Bands



This is Mr. Walker's 11th season leading the Marching Sound of One. Mr. Walker is known to be a comedian, loves his wife and kids, and will do almost anything for a bag of sour patch kids. He is an alumni of Benedict College and has a passion for cultivating the best band in the land.

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Acknowledgement & Agreement

Performance Ensembles

The band has numerous ensembles and groups that perform throughout the year across a variety of settings. Yulee High School is proud to offer so many musical opportunities for our students. The expected ensembles for the 26-27 school year are as follows:

- The Marching Sound of One: This is YHS's marching band. It is the most active and competitive ensemble in our program and features all music students in the band program including woodwinds, brass, percussion, and color guard. This ensemble performs at all football games, marching competitions, parades, and other community events. The marching band season begins in May and continues through November. It does perform in some select events during the rest of the school year.
- Concert Band: This ensemble typically consists of our underclassmen 9th winds/brass students. The purpose of the class is to increase musicality while focusing on fundamentals. The concert band meets a class requirement, and is a class period that students will have all school year. The concert band performs at events like the winter concert, spring concert, and concert MPA.
- Symphonic Band: This ensemble typically consists of our upperclassmen winds/brass students. The purpose of this class is to increase musicality and provide challenging music to our more experienced students. The symphonic band performs at events like the winter concert, spring concert, and concert MPA.
- "The Gold Tie Experience" Jazz Band: This ensemble is typically students with select instrumentation (typically trumpet, trombone, saxophone, piano, drum set). Students who are in the jazz band will be in the jazz band class. The jazz band performs at school concerts, Dickens on Center, and other community events.
- "The Yulee Jewels" Colorguard/Winterguard: The guard is included within the marching band during the fall and will perform separately at guard specified competitions in the Spring (Winterguard). Guard Instructors may hold auditions for the Winterguard for both membership and/or placement/role and is at the discretion of the Staff. The season typically begins at the end of October and concludes at the beginning of April. Color Guard members are expected to continue their enrollment in the Eurhythmics class throughout the year. The unit will typically rehearse 2-3 days per week – these rehearsals are required. Wind players who do make this ensemble will be expected to continue their instrumental studies in a regular Band class in addition to their added responsibilities within the guard. Students in Winterguard will have an additional financial obligation for each student above and beyond the standard band fee – fees are determined and set at the beginning of each winter season (after auditions) and will be based on show design, performances, and membership. Upon

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selection for winterguard/colorguard, students and their parent/guardian are required to sign an additional membership contract in addition to this handbook.

- Yulee Percussion: Yulee Percussion is a unit that participates in the FFCC Circuit alongside winterguard groups with a season that operates from the end of October until April. This ensemble is meant for percussion students, but non-percussionists are encouraged to audition. Wind players who show satisfactory progress on their primary instrument will be eligible to audition for this ensemble. Wind players who do make this ensemble will be expected to continue their instrumental studies in a regular band class in addition to their added responsibilities within the percussion ensemble. Like winterguard, there is a separate financial obligation for students who participate in this ensemble that is above and beyond the standard band fee. Fees are determined and set at the beginning of the season (after auditions) and will be based on show design, performances, and membership. Upon selection for Yulee Percussion, students and their parent/guardian are required to sign an additional membership contract in addition to this handbook. This group is highly competitive and considered an enrichment opportunity for the members who join.

OTHER PERFORMANCE ENSEMBLES AND OPPORTUNITIES

- All County Band: (Spring) Students audition for an opportunity to perform a joint concert with other students from all schools within the school district.
- Solo & Ensemble: (Spring) Both individual and smaller ensembles (duets, trios, quartets, percussion ensembles, color guard etc) can perform before an adjudicator and receive a rating.

It should be noted, there may be some instances where a student may be enrolled in multiple band classes, or the “wrong” one. If a student feels they are in the wrong class, it should be addressed first with the band director, and then a class change may be submitted following the school’s class change request form. This form typically needs to be submitted within the first two weeks of the start of the school year.

Instruments & Materials

Woodwinds:

Appropriate Mouthpiece(s), Ligatures, and Reeds, Cork Grease, Cleaning Swab, Instrument Polish, Pencils, highlighters, Lanyard

Brass:

Appropriate Mouthpieces, Valve Oil, Slide Grease, Instrument Polish, Tuner & Metronome, Pencils, Highlighters, Lanyard

Percussion:

Metronome, Pencils, 1 pair of Concert Snare Sticks and Pad, Highlighters, Earplugs, lanyard.
Percussion Staff will alert individual sections of specifics of each material needed. **HEARING PROTECTION IS A NON-NEGOTIABLE.**

Colorguard:

Refer to Colorguard Contract**, Pencils, Gloves (for weapons) , Equipment (school provided),

Everyone:

All students are required to have a lanyard, soft knee pads, 3-ring 3 inch binder, metronome/tuner (We recommend TE Tuner app), and sheet protectors

This list covers the basic required materials needed for each grouping. There may be other materials needed throughout the school year that are ensemble/activity specific. For example, during band camp, there is a more extensive list of items needed for each day (towels, sunscreen, etc) that are not included on this list. If a student is in more than one ensemble, they will need the basic materials for each instrument/group they are participating in.

This year, each student will be receiving their own half-gallon MS1 Jug. This is required at every event as we will not be bringing coolers of water to each event. Students are responsible for upkeep and ensuring it is at each event. Replacement water bottles will be available for purchase if a student loses the bottle.

This list does not include the materials needed for our winterguard or Yulee Percussion ensembles. That information will be provided by staff typically in October when their season and auditions occur.

Communication Policies

- **Parent Communication:**

- Remind App: All communication from Mr. Walker and Ms. Jordan will come directly through the Remind app. Remind is required for ALL band parents/guardians. Remind is used solely to communicate dates, reminders, itineraries, and other school related information. If you need to reach Mr. Walker or Ms. Jordan, Remind is the place to do it.

- **Remind Code:** @ms1band

- Facebook Group: The Facebook group is run by our band boosters. This is their form of communication, a place to post pictures, and just a good place to find friends among other parents.

- Facebook Group Name: Yulee Hornets High School Band Students & Parents

- **Student Communication:**

- Band App: Our band students and staff communicate via the Band App. Every group is monitored by staff and any chat or group that breaks the Nassau Student Code of Conduct or is harmful, will be subjected to termination or dismissal from the band program. The Band App allows students to submit video assignments, receive staff feedback, post pictures, and receive information about upcoming dates/events. This allows for a multifunctional purpose that allows the staff to have everything in one place. Each student will be in their own section's band group. For example, if your student plays the trombone, they will be placed in the "Low Brass Group". Students may be in more than one group, depending on their section or if they have a leadership role. Each group has its own chat that is monitored by the Band Staff.

- Failure to check communication platforms does not excuse missed information. Students should be checking the band app daily.

Band Social Media:

- Official Band Instagram: @yuleehornetbands
- Facebook: Yulee Hornet Bands

Each year, the students create their own instagram accounts for each section/group. Those are student run accounts and change frequently.

Grading Policy

The Yulee Band program is a co-curricular activity, which means that it is an academic subject with an extra-curricular component. The Florida Department of Education specifies: “This course can require students to participate in extra rehearsals and performances beyond the school day.” As such, a student’s grade is directly linked to attendance at these functions. **Parents and students must realize that when they join a performing group, they are making a commitment to all of the other members to be there and do their part. All after school events are mandatory.**

Grades are determined as follows(For the band classes):

- Participation/Attendance (9 weeks) Students are expected to be in their designated areas by the specified time for the entirety of the event. Students must have all appropriate materials, attire, and equipment.
- Performances/Playing Tests (9 weeks) Students are expected to play/perform assigned material in class and at school events, appropriate class and scheduled event participation, having appropriate rehearsal and performance materials, and returning any school owned items at designated times and in appropriate condition.
 - In the marching band, the students will be asked to complete “pass-offs.” These playing tests are to demonstrate the student’s ability to memorize and musically perform the show music, stand tunes, and other ensemble pieces. **Students who are unable to pass off their music prior to a performance or event will forfeit their ability to perform in that event.** This includes all competitions. Pass-offs are communicated on the white board, in the band app, and on Remind.

Attendance Grading Policy

- **Tardies:** Students are expected to be in the designated areas by the time specified. A student’s grade in this area can be reduced 1-10% points per occurrence, depending upon the degree to which the student was tardy. This includes after school rehearsals, games, performances, etc.
- **Unexcused Absences:** an unexcused absence from a performance may result in a failing grade for the 9 weeks. An unexcused absence from a rehearsal can result in the lowering of the 9 weeks grade by 50%. An unexcused absence may also have an effect on a student’s performance status or participation in the program.

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Notice of absence must be given verbally to the Director(s) and in writing (via Remind). A few examples of unexcused absences include, but are not limited to: Jobs, No Ride, Community Events, (Concerts, Fair, etc), Birthdays, etc. Please note that providing “Family Emergency” without giving some detail (from parents) will result in an unexcused absence. We do understand that there are some events that are planned in advance. There can be some excused absences per the discretion of the staff.

- **Excused Absences:** Director approval is required for excused absences. Advanced notice is expected from the parents/guardian via Remind as well as appropriate documentation (Doctors Note, etc). Appropriate extenuating circumstances will be excused if contact is not made before the rehearsal or performance. A doctor’s note or more detailed information pertaining to the absence will be required to validate the reason for the absence. Without this additional information, staff may not excuse the absence. Notice of absence must be given verbally to the Director(s) and in writing (via Remind). A few examples of excused absences include: Death in the Family, Weddings, Family Reunions
 - *Makeup Time:* *Regardless of an absence, excused or unexcused, a student may be required to make up their time for the absence. This is at the director’s and staff discretion. This could include, but is not limited to; staying after school, having a 1:1 sectional with leadership, or submitting homework videos.*
- **DISMISSAL/QUITTING:** Those who do not follow the rules and policies of the band are subject to dismissal. It is the Directors’ decision as to which class or group a student is enrolled in and what part they play. A student who quits during the grading period will remain scheduled in the class, and will fail the semester if they cannot be moved. They will be removed from the class at the first opportunity, and only in very rare instances will they be allowed to rejoin the program – the Directors decide who is allowed to stay. **Students who are removed from the program, by a Director or Parent, will not receive a refund on Fees paid. Students may be dismissed and/or not allowed to participate in band for inappropriate conduct, missing a performance, excessive (3+) absences (excused or unexcused) regardless of the letter grade they are earning.**

Attendance, Alternates, Suspension

During the school year, the MS1 Band will rehearse Tuesdays & Thursdays from 4:30pm-7:30pm and some Fridays/Saturdays during football season. These rehearsals involve ALL band members – Winds, Percussion, and Color Guard.

● **Rehearsal Information:** *All rehearsals and performances are **mandatory** and are part of each student's grade.* The band will rehearse on days with rain or bad weather unless otherwise dictated by the Directors, Principal, or School District.

- Announcements, changes, and cancellations will be announced via Remind! Please note that the ending time for rehearsals will be when we finish rehearsing, not when students will be ready to walk out of the building. We work hard to ensure that students pack up quickly and efficiently but they must take care of all responsibilities before leaving each day - it is best to plan to arrive shortly after the ending time to avoid any extended wait times (usually students are walking out of the band room 5-15 minutes after the ending time for rehearsals). Students should not regularly be later than this - if they are, please reach out to the director so that we can find a solution.
- **Missing a Rehearsal/Performance:** Absences may be considered excused or unexcused as listed in the grading policy. Special Permission of the Directors for specific planned absences must be obtained two weeks in advance in writing by the parent or guardian for a rehearsal. Special Permission of Directors for specific planned absences for a performance must be obtained weeks in advance, and may place your student on alternate status. All other absences are unexcused – yes, even birthdays.

Students who miss the final rehearsal prior to a performance, or 50% of the rehearsals that week can be put on probation for the next game or performance. (The student will be unable to play or be sidelined). This is at the discretion of the band director and staff. It will be handled on a case by case basis. Students who are on probation must still attend all band functions.

- **Students who are Unable to Perform:** Alternates, students with injuries (knee, ankle, wrist, etc), and those prohibited from performing (suspension, part change, or other) must still attend all events in uniform. They are still a member of the organization, and will usually be needed in other capacities, such as equipment setup, etc when physically capable.
- **Missing Rehearsal as "Punishment":** When you join the band, you are making a commitment to the entire group. Parents *may not pull your child out of practice, performances or the program to discipline them for problems you are experiencing at home/school* – this will not be an excused absence. It is unfair to all of those depending on that student and can result in removal from the program! If you have a concern, please contact the Director to help work on a solution.

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- **Summer Rehearsal Schedule:** All Summer Camps are mandatory. Students missing camp days, including leaving early/showing up late without special permission from the Directors can result in alternate status, not performing in the entire show, or not being eligible to participate in the program.
Examples of unexcused absences from camp: trips within several months of notice, work, other camps, family in town, etc.
- **Student with Injuries:** It is typical that some students may encounter injuries (knees, ankles, etc) due to the intensity of our activity. Students will be responsible for bringing and wearing any protective equipment such as braces, compression socks, etc so that they can fully participate. If an injury prohibits a student from performing, they must still attend the rehearsal to be present for any information given. Doctor notes with any restrictions etc. must be provided for students with injuries and limitations.
- **Suspension from Program:** Students can be suspended from performing for a number of reasons (inability to perform the required material to a satisfactory level, attendance, punctuality, inappropriate behavior, attitude, etc). Students who are suspended for any part of a performance must still dress out and attend the event. Suspensions can include: Stands, Field, Concert or any other public performance.

Alternate Policy:

Each year we lose members during the fall due to moving, quitting, injuries, and academic ineligibility. We try to design the show for fewer people than we have on the roll to anticipate this. This means that two members can share one marching spot. The student who marches and/or plays the show the best will get to perform. Marching a “hole” is detrimental to the band’s ability to perform, and for this reason, we have alternates. Students who are not performing on the field for a game will still perform in the stands during all games and will help move equipment, props, and other tasks during the show performance. They are still integral parts of the band and will constantly be learning and growing. We will typically have students perform every other game in the show and then select the best performer for the competitions.

Every student will perform in at least one competition/Saturday event during the season. Alternates are usually the newer first/second year members, members who struggle with the musical/visual demand or members who miss days during band camp. As spots become available, alternates will move into them at the discretion of the Directors.

A member may be placed on alternate status for the following reasons:

Missing any Camp Days ▪ Unexcused or excessive (3+) excused absences or tardies (class or rehearsal) ▪ Inability to perform the show/music (not passing off at sectionals or class) ▪ Illness or injury that prevents performance ▪ Missing a key rehearsal causing incomplete knowledge of the show ▪ Missing the last rehearsal before a performance, regardless of the reason ▪ Poor attitude

Overall Band Conduct Expectations

The Nassau County School District Code of Student Conduct is in effect and will be followed during all band-related classes, rehearsals, performances, travel, and events. Participation in the band program is a privilege that includes additional expectations designed to maintain student safety, organization, professionalism, and ensemble success.

Food and Drinks

Food and beverages, other than water, are not permitted in the band room, performance areas, stands, or rehearsal spaces unless approved by band staff. Gum chewing is not permitted while in uniform or during performances. Individual health or medical needs will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

Rehearsal and Performance Attire

Students are expected to wear attire designated by staff for rehearsals and performances, including any required uniform components (e.g., band shirt, black socks, band shoes, bibbers, rehearsal attire, etc.).

Required attire will be communicated in advance through approved communication platforms. Students who are not appropriately dressed for rehearsal or performance may be unable to fully participate and may be assigned an alternate role until expectations are met.

For student safety and participation, rehearsal attire should include closed-toed athletic shoes and clothing appropriate for movement and outdoor weather conditions. Students wearing unsafe or inappropriate attire may be asked to change prior to participation.

Call Time Expectations

Call time is defined as the time students are fully prepared and ready to begin an event or rehearsal. Students should arrive early enough to be dressed, have all required materials, and report to their assigned location prior to the posted call time.

Required Materials

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Students are expected to bring all required materials to rehearsals and performances, including instruments, music, equipment, and a large reusable water jug for outdoor rehearsals. Students who repeatedly fail to bring required materials may be assigned alternate responsibilities or experience limitations in participation until expectations are met.

Instrument and Equipment Care

Students are expected to maintain instruments and equipment in proper working condition and store materials in designated areas. Students should only handle equipment assigned to them unless given permission by staff.

Band lockers are intended for storage of band-related materials only. Items unrelated to band may be removed to maintain organization and safety.

Cell Phone and Electronic Device Expectations

District and school policies regarding personal electronic devices will be followed during all band-related activities. Personal devices should remain put away during rehearsals, classes, performances, and instructional time unless otherwise approved for instructional purposes or emergencies.

Accountability and Professionalism

Students are expected to demonstrate responsibility for both personal and school property, including uniforms, instruments, music, travel spaces, and shared equipment.

Students are expected to demonstrate respectful, responsible, and professional behavior toward peers, staff, volunteers, chaperones, bus drivers, parents, audience members, and members of other organizations.

Social Media Expectations

Students represent both themselves and the band program in digital spaces. Students are expected to engage responsibly and respectfully online and should refrain from posts or interactions that are threatening, discriminatory, harassing, inappropriate, or negatively reflective of the program or school community.

Band Program Expectations

Band students are expected to:

- Be present and punctual
- Demonstrate respect for people, property, and instructional time
- Follow staff directions promptly and respectfully
- Arrive prepared with required materials
- Maintain a positive, flexible, and professional attitude
- Contribute to a safe and supportive learning environment

After School Rehearsal Expectations

Band rehearsals are essential to the success, safety, and overall performance quality of the ensemble. Students are expected to arrive prepared, remain actively engaged, and participate to the best of their ability throughout the entirety of rehearsals.

Arrival and Transition Expectations

Students are expected to report promptly after school and use the designated transition period from **3:45 PM – 4:15 PM** to:

- Change into appropriate rehearsal attire
- Retrieve all required materials and equipment (props, instruments, etc)
- Hydrate, use the restroom if needed, and prepare for rehearsal
- Move to the designated rehearsal location as outlined in the rehearsal plan or communicated by staff

Students should arrive at the rehearsal site prepared and ready to begin instruction at the designated start time.

Active Participation and Engagement

Students are expected to remain actively engaged for the entirety of rehearsals. This includes participating in instruction, following staff directions, maintaining rehearsal focus, and remaining prepared to contribute to the ensemble at all times.

Students are expected to remain with their assigned section or rehearsal group unless given permission by staff.

Electronic Device Expectations

To maintain instructional focus and rehearsal efficiency, **cell phones, headphones, earbuds, smart watches used for communication, and other personal electronic devices are not permitted during rehearsals unless specifically approved by staff for instructional or emergency purposes.**

Devices should remain put away during rehearsal blocks and may only be used during designated breaks or with staff permission.

Water Breaks and Student Wellness

Student health and safety remain a priority during rehearsals. Students will be provided with scheduled opportunities for hydration and water breaks throughout rehearsal.

Students are expected to bring a **large reusable water jug** to all rehearsals, particularly outdoor rehearsals and summer activities.

Students who are feeling ill, overheated, injured, or otherwise unwell will be addressed on a case-by-case basis by staff.

Sitting Out During Rehearsal

If a student needs to temporarily sit out due to illness, overheating, or other physical concerns, staff may provide an opportunity for the student to rest, hydrate, or regulate before returning to rehearsal.

When sitting out, students are expected to remain attentive and engaged in rehearsal by observing instruction, listening to feedback, and remaining prepared to rejoin the ensemble when appropriate. Students should not use personal electronic devices, engage in unrelated conversations, or leave designated areas unless approved by staff.

To support student wellness and maximize instructional time, staff may implement a timed break period and communicate expectations for returning to rehearsal participation.

If a student demonstrates repeated health concerns or an inability to safely participate in rehearsals over time, band staff may request a parent conference to collaboratively discuss student wellness, participation expectations, medical considerations, and whether **alternate status or modified participation** may be appropriate to ensure the safety and success of the student and ensemble.

Rehearsal Readiness

Students are expected to arrive at rehearsals with all required materials, including but not limited to:

- Instrument/equipment
- Music and drill materials
- Pencil
- Water jug
- Required rehearsal attire and athletic footwear

Students who repeatedly arrive unprepared may experience limitations in participation, alternate status, or additional accountability measures as outlined in the band handbook.

Uniform and Show Costume Expectations

Band uniforms and costumes represent the band program, school, and community. Students are expected to demonstrate professionalism and appropriate behavior while in uniform.

Students are expected to:

- Wear designated undergarments or athletic clothing as communicated by staff
- Wear approved band or show attire when uniform tops are not being worn
- Keep uniforms clean, organized, and properly stored in garment bags
- Refrain from altering uniform items without approval
- Wear minimal jewelry that does not interfere with safety or performance
- Follow all school and district expectations for conduct while in uniform

For student safety, students should avoid running while in uniform unless instructed during rehearsal or performance procedures.

Students are responsible for the care and upkeep of assigned uniforms. Damage resulting from misuse or negligence may result in repair or replacement costs.

Students who are not in proper uniform or unable to meet safety expectations may be unable to participate in a performance event.

Student Leadership Expectations

The band program values student leadership as an important component of student growth, mentorship, accountability, and ensemble success. Student leaders are selected through an application

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and/or audition process and are entrusted with additional responsibilities to support the instructional goals and daily operations of the band program.

Student leaders may include, but are not limited to:

- Drum Majors
- Section Leaders
- Captains
- Leadership Team Members
- Student Staff or Assigned Mentors

Role of Student Leadership

Student leaders serve as an extension of the instructional team and may assist with:

- Communicating rehearsal expectations and procedures
- Leading sectionals, warm-ups, and instructional activities under staff supervision
- Assisting with organization, transitions, and rehearsal efficiency
- Supporting positive culture, accountability, and student mentorship
- Reinforcing performance expectations, preparedness, and professionalism

Student Expectations Regarding Leadership

To maintain an efficient, respectful, and successful rehearsal environment, students are expected to appropriately respond to directions, reminders, and instructional guidance provided by designated student leaders while participating in band activities.

Student leaders operate under the supervision and direction of band staff. Directions given by student leaders should be viewed as an extension of staff expectations and are intended to support rehearsal flow, student safety, and ensemble success.

If a student has concerns regarding a student leader interaction, concerns should be respectfully communicated to a staff member and not addressed disruptively during rehearsal or performance activities.

Leadership Accountability

Student leaders are expected to model professionalism, integrity, respect, preparedness, and positive conduct at all times. Leadership positions are a privilege and may be reviewed or adjusted if expectations are not consistently upheld.

Band staff maintain final authority regarding all decisions, instruction, and student leadership responsibilities.

Performance Expectations

Before Performances

- Students should arrive early enough to be fully prepared and seated in the designated location prior to call time.
- Students are responsible for gathering all required materials upon arrival and ensuring they have all items needed for successful participation.
- For student safety and supervision, only authorized participants, staff, and approved volunteers may enter designated student areas unless otherwise approved. **No parents/guardians/family are allowed in the band room. *This keeps all of our students safe.***

Football Game and Stands Expectations

- Students are expected to remain with their assigned section and in designated areas during performances and football games unless given staff permission.
- Students should remain actively engaged by supporting the football team, following drum major or staff instructions, and participating appropriately in musical responsibilities.
- Food, beverages (other than water), and electronic device use may be limited during performance responsibilities to maintain safety, supervision, and performance readiness.
- For safety purposes, students leaving assigned areas must notify staff or an approved chaperone. Students will remain in groups of 3 or more.

After Performances

- Students are expected to assist with unloading, cleaning, and properly storing equipment before dismissal.
- Dismissal will occur after responsibilities have been completed and staff determine areas are safe, organized, and performance-ready for future events.

Travel Expectations

- For supervision and student safety, students are expected to travel with the band to and from events unless alternative arrangements are approved in advance according to district procedures.
- Students may only be released to a parent or legal guardian unless written approval consistent with district policy has been submitted and approved.
- Students should remain in supervised groups during travel events and follow all staff and chaperone expectations. This means groups of 3 or more.

Bus Expectations

Students are expected to:

- Remain seated while the bus is in motion
- Follow bus driver and chaperone directions
- Maintain appropriate voice levels
- Keep aisles clear and maintain a safe environment
- Demonstrate respectful and school-appropriate behavior

Students may not use prohibited substances, inappropriate language, or unsafe behavior during travel.

Bus seating and supervision decisions are determined by staff and chaperones to maintain student safety and appropriate conduct.

Arrival Expectations

- Upon arrival, students should remain with their assigned group and follow staff directions regarding unloading, equipment, and movement throughout the venue.
- Students are expected to maintain organization, care for personal belongings, and leave travel areas clean.
- Students will follow directions of staff and the loading crew regarding unloading of equipment.

Consequence Protocol & Student Accountability

The goal of student accountability within the band program is to support student growth, maintain a safe and respectful environment, and ensure the success and integrity of the ensemble. Consequences

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will be administered progressively whenever possible and may vary depending on the severity, frequency, or safety concern of the behavior.

Band staff reserve the right to adjust consequences based on the individual circumstance, level of concern, impact on student safety, and effect on ensemble instruction or performance.

Level 1: Minor Concerns

Examples may include, but are not limited to:

- Talking during instruction or cutoffs
- Minor dress code concerns
- Failure to bring required materials (music, pencil, water jug, etc.)
- Off-task behavior during rehearsal
- Minor classroom or rehearsal disruptions
- Inappropriate phone use during rehearsal or class
- Failure to follow minor procedural expectations

Possible responses may include:

- Assigned exercises by staff or student leadership
- Verbal reminder or redirection
- Student conference with staff
- Reflection or restorative conversation
- Temporary seating or rehearsal adjustment
- Parent communication for repeated concerns

Level 2: Repeated or Moderate Concerns

Examples may include, but are not limited to:

- Repeated Level 1 concerns after redirection
- Unexcused tardiness or attendance concerns
- Repeated failure to bring required materials
- Inappropriate conduct while representing the band program
- Failure to follow staff directions
- Disrespectful behavior toward peers or adults
- Unauthorized cell phone use during performances or football games
- Leaving assigned areas without permission

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Possible responses may include:

- Parent/guardian communication
- Behavior conference with student and staff
- Temporary loss of privileges (e.g., 3rd quarter break, social privileges, leadership opportunities, alternate seating)
- Alternate performance status for safety or preparedness concerns
- Required make-up responsibilities or restorative action plan

Level 3: Major or Safety Concerns

Examples may include, but are not limited to:

- Major disruption to rehearsal, performance, or travel
- Unsafe behavior toward self or others
- Bullying, harassment, intimidation, or inappropriate social media conduct
- Leaving supervised areas during travel or performances
- Destruction or misuse of equipment, instruments, uniforms, or property
- Repeated insubordination or refusal to follow staff directions
- Conduct that negatively impacts student safety or ensemble performance

Possible responses may include:

- Immediate parent/guardian communication
- Administrative referral when appropriate
- Temporary removal from an event or activity
- Alternate performance assignment or inability to perform for a specific event
- Behavior contract or probationary status
- Removal from leadership position
- Suspension or removal from specific band activities when necessary for safety, supervision, or program integrity

Immediate Administrative Concerns

The following behaviors may result in immediate school administrative involvement and/or removal from activities consistent with district policy:

- Possession or use of prohibited substances
- Threats, fighting, or physical aggression
- Serious safety violations

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- Harassment, discrimination, or illegal activity
- Major violations of Nassau County School District policy

Band staff will work collaboratively with students and families whenever possible to address concerns proactively and help students remain successful members of the program. All consequences are case by case and handled at the discretion of the staff.

Parent Volunteering Information

Behind every great band, are great parents and guardians! One of the most important needs of the band is your support. Please volunteer and support us by attending as many events as you can. We need ALL parents and guardians to volunteer their time, talents, and support in order to have a successful program. Throughout the year, there are plenty of opportunities to volunteer in a large or small role, occasional role, or a regularly scheduled role. In almost all cases of volunteering, prior experience is not needed. The Band Booster Executive Board are the leaders of the Band Booster Association. The association is an organization consisting of the parents and guardians of the student members. The main objective of this group is to provide additional funding and support for the needs of the Yulee High School Marching Band Program beyond what is supplied by the Nassau County School District. These items consist of uniforms needs, props, instruments, equipment, staff, music, etc. Please make every effort to become involved in this vital group and support the band program. No great band can accomplish their goals without a strong parent organization. A schedule of meetings will be published on the Google Calendar. Meetings will typically begin at 6:30pm in the HOPE room. (The room directly across from the band room).

- Band Boosters Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/yhsband/>
1. Volunteer Form: Fill out the online application on any computer. Be sure to use your full legal name and birthdate as it appears on your driver's license or other government-issued ID.
 2. Be sure to select the school(s) where you most frequently volunteer. Also, select the functions you would like to see when you sign in at the kiosk.
 3. Once approved, you will receive a response via the email address you provided in your application.
 4. The first time you volunteer, have your government-issued ID scanned by the school. Your ID must match the name and birthdate you provided on your volunteer application.
 5. All volunteer approvals will expire on June 30 each year, requiring volunteers to renew. Your ID will not need to be scanned again unless your name has legally changed,
 6. Link to the Volunteer Application: [Nassau Volunteer Application](#)

Marching Sound of One Member Policies Acknowledgement & Agreement

As we enter into the season, students are to be held to the highest standard of excellence. When participating in the Marching Sound of One, students are held to the Nassau County School District Code of Conduct and all policies listed in this handbook. If a student is found to be breaking the policies in this handbook or the NCSD Code of Conduct, they will be subject to the consequences, such as suspension or dismissal from the program.

Students who are removed from the program, by a Director or Parent, will not receive a refund on Fees paid.

I, _____, as the legal guardian or parent of
_____ understand the policies and procedures
listed in this handbook. By signing below, both my student and myself agree to upholding the policies and
procedures as listed in this band handbook, as well as the Nassau County Code of Conduct. By signing, you also
acknowledge that you understand each policy and procedure and the consequences if these are not followed.

Parent or Legal Guardian's Printed Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Student Member's Printed Name

Student Member's Signature

Date: ____/____/____