



## **Franklinband.weebly.com**

### The Top 13 Things You Should Know as a Student

#### BAND MEMBERS SHARE WISDOM AND SURVIVAL TIPS.

1. ALWAYS be on time, which really means 10-15 minutes early.
2. When in doubt, stop talking.
3. Show respect to everyone and listen to what ‘veterans’ have to say. They’re probably right.
4. Don’t expect to know everything the first day. Even people who have marched before still have things to learn.
5. Take things seriously, but not TOO seriously. In the end, as Mr. Long would say, “It is only high school marching band.”
6. We are very good at what we do because we can focus when we need to.
7. Stay well rested, fed, and hydrated.
8. Always have all your materials on you or close enough that you can get them quickly.
9. Know how to work, but also know how to relax. Know that the two NEVER occur at the same time, EVER.
10. Keep up on your schoolwork. Take every opportunity to do your homework. On the bus, extra time in class, at appointments — do whatever it takes. Be as productive as possible.
11. You will be called out eventually. Don’t be afraid. When it happens, just speak up and don’t worry about being wrong.
12. Always trust the instructors. Especially when you think they aren’t right. They are rarely wrong.
13. You may want to quit. But DON’T!

***BAND PRIDE - ALL THE TIME***

## The Top Nine Things You Should Know as a Marching Band Parent

1. Your student is probably more capable than you realize. Even if you have all the time in the world, you will start to feel like a personal servant if you don't ask your kids to take some responsibility for their own stuff. Water jugs, lunches, props, laundry -- it never ends. Your student can make a sandwich, fill up a water jug, and set out their 'stuff'. If you are inclined, help them create checklists so that they remember everything they need to bring. It may be a lot of stuff, so be ready.
2. Get out of the car and come join us. Be respectful of practices going on, but come on in and see what is happening. Frequently, there are parents working on projects or hanging around. It is a great time to make introductions and let people know you are new to the band program and would like to get involved. Park the car and come down to the field. The last 15-20 minutes of practice will be a run through of what the kids have learned so far. Friday nights are the traditional nights to view, but you will find parents in the stands most nights. Watching the evolution of the band and the kids is really inspiring. The kids love the encouragement.
3. Teach your student how to manage their time. You WILL be busy -- especially from August until the middle of November. You can review the calendar at any time on the website ([franklinband.weebly.com](http://franklinband.weebly.com)), but you MUST find a way to keep track of everything. More importantly, your student will have to balance band and school work. Many of the band kids are honor students, and the time management skills they learn will help them throughout their life.
4. Bring cash, warm clothes and something to sit on. Most school functions require that you bring cash. Invitational (defined later on) charge admission, anywhere from \$5 to \$10 per person. Children under 5 are usually admitted free. You MUST bring cash. Concessions are cash only, as are some souvenir vendors.
5. Take care of your Booster Mom/Dad. If you would make a drawing of the perfect Booster Mom (It is usually a MOM but it doesn't have to be), she/he would have six arms, three heads, and a heart of pure gold. Remarkably, Booster Moms accomplish amazing things without the extra appendages. These are the people who dress your student, fix their hair, and wash their uniforms. They dispense wisdom, encouragement and snacks with laughter and generosity. They are the people on the front lines who make sure your student is ready to go on the field. This is a job that deserves far more recognition than most understand, so please ask how you can assist.
6. Band Directors are people, too. But they are BUSY people. They work long hours and their main focus is the kids. If you have a specific concern about your child and the band program, set up a time to discuss it. If you need general information, directors are probably not your best resource. Try a fellow parent first, another Band Booster. On another note: Marching band requires dedication and discipline from your student. The job of the directors is to help your student excel in band. Directors speak loudly, pointedly and sometimes without pleasantries. When mistakes are made, especially due to inattention or lack of effort, there are consequences. Try to relax and allow the process to work. Encourage your student to do their best, listen, and work hard. Everyone wants your child to be successful. You will learn this as you move through the season

7. We can't do it without you—volunteer and come to the booster meetings. You will be asked to commit time, energy, donations and the band fees to the band program. Unlike many sports programs, the Franklin Wildcat Band must have parent volunteers for the programs to run smoothly, and it is the best way to get to know others. Plan to attend as many Booster meetings as you can. They are only once a month for about an hour. Mr. Long usually addresses the parents with updates on the show and will answer parent questions. It is time well spent. About volunteering ... no experience necessary. No, REALLY! There are tasks that require specific skills, but most opportunities do not. If you can pull a soda from a cooler, work at a concession stand, use scissors, sew or build props - you have all the skills you need. Better yet, there is so much to do, you are bound to find something you actually enjoy doing.
8. **Check out the website** ([franklinband.weebly.com](http://franklinband.weebly.com)) and **READ YOUR EMAIL**. This could be said a thousand times and still not be said enough. As the season progresses, you will get multiple messages from the boosters about fundraising and other events. **READ THEM. CHECK YOUR EMAIL DAILY.** You may not always completely understand the emails, but **READ THEM**. If you are completely lost, you can ask the Booster President for more info.
9. Yes, it's worth it! All of the rides, time, and effort that as a parent, you put into getting your child to practices are worth every second. You may not be able to appreciate that in the beginning. Your student may get discouraged at first. There is a lot of repetition, hot sweaty days, failures, and disappointments. Then the show starts to come together and everything changes. There is a new energy, a new excitement. This is the point where they will either **LOVE** band, or plan a different activity next year. Most of the kids **LOVE** band by the end of the season, so make them tough it out for the whole season. It will be worth it.

## **Marching Band Expectations & Contract**

In order to promote and maintain harmony in the band, thereby increasing performance ability and FUN, the following rules have been established.

1) All marching band members are expected to participate in all aspects of marching band including rehearsals, performances (football games, contests, etc.), pep rallies, parades and other events unless an **excused absence form** is filled out and then signed by parent/guardian and Mr. Long.

### 2) **Rehearsals**

- During the School Year: Tuesday, Thursday 3pm – 6pm
- After school rehearsals are **MANDATORY**. Work/babysitting is not an acceptable excuse.
- Warren County Tech students are expected to attend after school rehearsals.
- **Minor rehearsal infractions**. The directors may assign loss of a break, equipment be carried, etc. following rehearsal time or on breaks for minor infractions.
- Hydration is important during rehearsals! Students should bring a water bottle to all rehearsals.
- Students must wear clothing that adheres to the school dress code policy.

- Tennis shoes or marching shoes are to be worn for every rehearsal. No flip flops or sandals!

### 3) Performances

- Appearance and unity counts. You are expected to sit with your section at games/performances.
- No one other than band members will be allowed to sit with the band. i.e. no friends/significant others.
- No public displays of affection while at any event. Especially when you are in uniform!!
- Each band member is expected to behave properly at all times on the buses. Follow the directions of your chaperones.
- Unless we are early to a game, you will not be allowed to visit the concession stand until 3rd quarter. Do NOT plan on eating or drinking until then. If a parent wishes to provide food for you at a game, this is permitted. However, you are expected to participate in all playing during the game.
- You are responsible for your own equipment. Do not ask anyone else to carry your “stuff”.
- **ALL** music must be memorized by the first game. There will be music checks.
- Meeting members of the other band. The directors will choose who will meet weekly. Other students will be permitted to meet the opposing band during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter break.
- All students must return to the band stands and be ready to play at 1’00” of 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. Failure to show up on time will result in the loss of 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter break at the following game.
- Any organized band event is a school function no matter what day or time. Therefore, all school rules and disciplinary procedures apply.

### 4) Uniforms

- Uniform jackets may be taken off during games, **ONLY** if you are wearing a Franklin band shirt (show shirt, or whatever Mr. Long deems necessary). Please take care to make sure uniforms are placed neatly on seats in a clean area.
- Students are expected to dress in appropriate uniform for all marching events. (Black socks, black shoes, all jacket parts, uniform pants and hat, auxiliary uniform. Failure to do so may result in the student not performing for that game but standing at attention on the sideline.
- Uniforms are expected to be clean and worn in appropriate manner. Please inform Mr. Long of any stains ASAP.

### 5) Absences and Tardies:

- One (1) unexcused absence from rehearsal will result in the student not performing in that week’s game. However, the student is expected to “dress” for that game.
- Babysitting/concerts/work will **NEVER** be considered an excused absence.
- An unexcused tardy to practice/game will result in the loss of 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter time equivalent to the amount of time tardy.
- A note from a parent must be given 24 hours in advance to request an excused absent from a rehearsal. (24 hours following an emergency absence) Please see the absence request form.

6) **Emergencies** will be dealt with on an individual basis.

7) **Suspension** from marching band may occur for the following:

- Three (3) unexcused absences from rehearsal
- Any unexcused absence from a performance
- Poor attitude not in keeping expectations and the tradition of the Franklin band program.

8) If you are involved with **another school activity**, we can work out a schedule. Students are expected to share equal time between activities. Please check with Mr. Long to set up a schedule prior to the marching season.

9) **“STAR” Club**

The “Cat” club Stars are presented to members of the marching band who show a strong work ethic and dedication to excellence by going “above and beyond” standard expectations. An incentive board is placed on a wall in the band room with each student’s name listed. As a student is caught going “above and beyond” to improve the quality of the band (ex. helping another student, showing good character, making good choices, demonstrating home practice through significant performance improvement, etc.) a sticker will be placed by their name. Students will receive their bar(s) every two weeks after the first game. The bars will be worn on the right shoulder of their band uniform during performance.

10) **Section leaders**

It is the duty of section leaders to be positive leaders for the group with which they are working. Students will be selected to work groups based on need, not necessarily by section. For example, a flute player may be asked to work with low brass to demonstrate the proper technique. The section leaders will be chosen based upon marching and playing ability as well as positive attitudes.

11) **Travel**

Students will travel to and from football games and events as a group by bus unless otherwise specified. Students may be released to the parent/guardian at the conclusion of the event providing that a note is provided. Students will not be released to leave with other individuals than their parent/guardian.

12) **Attendance/participation**

Any student who is not in attendance for the entire school day will not be permitted to participate in any extracurricular activity that day. The student must be in attendance by 11:00 AM to be considered present for the school day. Pre-approved, documented absences such as dentist/doctor appointments, court appearances, funerals, college visits, etc. are the exceptions to this policy. **Parent notes alone** are not sufficient to create an exception to this policy.

13) **Eligibility**

To be eligible to participate in marching band, students must maintain a 1.75 grade point average, attend pre-camp and band camp.

14) **Other required materials**

Students are required to have plain black marching shoes and black dress socks. You may place the order with the band during pre-camp.

## **Marching Band/Band Camp Requirements**

### **1) Band Camp**

- Students will meet at 8:00AM on Monday, August 5th to begin camp.
- Students will not be allowed to leave the school campus during the camp day from 8:00AM-8:00PM.
- All rules stated in the District Code of Conduct apply.
- Band Camp is mandatory as we learn 80-90% of the year's music and show during that week and the students rely on each other for field placement. Absences may require a doctor's note.
- All students must wear gym shoes to practices. (includes throughout the season)
- Students are only allowed in areas related to our camp. i.e. marching field, band room, cafeteria and specifically designated rehearsal areas. There are meetings and school staff working in the building that must not be disturbed.
- Any severe infraction will result in the student being sent home (at the parents' expense and/or responsibility) and possible suspension from marching band.
- Due to many students experiencing stomach ailments during camp, we ask that parents limit the amount of "unhealthy" snacks the student brings to camp.

### **2) Marching Band Traditions**

During Camp, and throughout the season, the students celebrate traditions and activities that have been observed by Franklin band students for many years. These traditions are student driven and not administered by the band directors and staff. Students are not required to participate; however, those activities that build unity and teamwork are encouraged. If a student does not wish to participate, he or she may opt out and will not be punished or ridiculed for doing so. If a student feels bullied or witnesses an activity that is inappropriate, please notify Mr. Long immediately so that action may be taken.

### **3) Absences from Camp**

Any absences from camp will only be excused with a note from a physician. It is EXTREMELY difficult for students to make up any missed time and does affect the success of the entire group.

### **Camp Checklist**

- |                                                                           |                               |                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| _____ Instrument*                                                         | _____ Towel                   | _____ Change of clothes             |
| _____ Extra pair of gym shoes<br>(Gym shoes to be worn at all rehearsals) |                               | _____ Sunglasses                    |
| _____ Extra socks                                                         | _____ Bug Spray               | _____ Sunscreen*                    |
| _____ <b><u>Water Bottle labeled with name</u></b>                        |                               | _____ music lyre/flip folder/music* |
| _____ Hat                                                                 | _____ Reeds/oil/sticks, etc.* | _____ Poncho                        |

\*indicates mandatory items

\_\_\_\_\_ You may bring cell phones, however, these may only be used on student's break time. ANY cell phones being used during rehearsal time will be confiscated and returned to the student at the end of the day. A second offense will result in the phone being confiscated

### **DO NOT bring to camp**

No electronics such as video games, TVs, etc.

Electric musical instruments

The band is not responsible any personal items that are damaged at camp.

*All rules in the student code of conduct apply.*



## Spring/Summer/Fall Band Dates Marching Band 2019

*All rehearsals & performances are mandatory unless excused by Mr. Long in advance.*

Sections meets every Tuesday and Thursday 6pm – 9pm during the summer

Thur	May 9	<b>2:30 – 4pm</b>	<b>Wind Conditioning</b>
Mon	May 13	<b>2:30 – 4pm</b>	<b>Wind Conditioning</b>
Tue	May 14	<b>2:30 – 4pm</b>	<b>Wind Conditioning</b>
Wed	May 15	<b>2:30 – 4pm</b>	<b>Wind Conditioning</b>
Mon	May 20	<b>3 – 4:30pm</b>	<b>Memorial Parade Practice</b>
Tue	May 21	<b>3 – 4:30pm</b>	<b>Memorial Parade Practice</b>
Wed	May 22	<b>3 – 4:30pm</b>	<b>Memorial Parade Practice</b>
Mon	May 27	<b>8am – 1pm</b>	<b>Memorial Day Parade</b>
Tue	Jun 4	<b>6 – 9pm</b>	<b>Marching Band Practice</b>
Thu	Jun 6	<b>6 – 9pm</b>	<b>Marching Band Practice</b>
Tue	Jun 11	<b>6 – 9pm</b>	<b>Marching Band Practice</b>
Thu	Jun 13	<b>6 – 9pm</b>	<b>Marching Band Practice</b>
Tue	Jun 18	<b>6 – 9pm</b>	<b>Marching Band Practice</b>
Thu	Jun 20	<b>6 – 9pm</b>	<b>Marching Band Practice</b>
Tue	Jun 25	<b>6 – 9pm</b>	<b>Marching Band Practice</b>
Thu	Jun 27	<b>6 – 9pm</b>	<b>Marching Band Practice</b>

Mon	Jul 1	8am – 12pm	Parade Practice
Tue	Jul 2	8am – 12pm	Parade Practice
Wed	Jul 3	8am – 12pm	Parade Practice <b>Band Fees are DUE</b>
Wed	Jul 4	8am – 1pm	Parade
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Tue	Jul 9	6 – 9pm	Marching Band Practice
Thu	Jul 11	6 – 9pm	Marching Band Practice
Tue	Jul 16	6 – 9pm	Marching Band Practice
Thu	Jul 18	6 – 9pm	Marching Band Practice
Tue	Jul 23	6 – 9pm	Marching Band Practice
Thu	Jul 25	6 – 10pm	Marching Band Practice
Mon Monday,	Jul 29 July 29	<b>TBA</b> 8:30am – 12:30pm	<b>Souring Sounds 6pm</b> Pre-Camp All
Tue	Jul 30	8:30am – 12:30pm	Pre-Camp All
Wed	Jul 31	8:30am – 12:30pm	Pre-Camp All
Thu	Aug 1	8:30am – 12:30pm	Pre-Camp All
Fri	Aug 2	8:30am – 12:30pm	Pre-Camp All
Mon	Aug 5	8:30am – 8pm	Band Camp
Tue	Aug 6	8:30am – 8pm	Band Camp
Wed	Aug 7	8:30am – 8pm	Band Camp
Thu	Aug 8	8:30am – 8pm	Band Camp
Fri	Aug 9	8:30am – 8pm	Band Camp

**AFTER SCHOOL PRACTICES****TBA**

Fri	Sep 6	All day	Home vs Edgewood (Kitten Night)
Sat	Sep 7	All day	Kings Competition
Fri	Sep 13	All day	Home vs Xenia (junior high Band night)
Sat	Sep 14	All day	Fenwick Competition
Fri	Sep 20	All day	Away Game @ Monroe
Wed	Sep 25	after school	Home Coming Parade
Fri	Sep 27	All day	Homecoming Game
Fri	Oct 4	All day	Away Game @ Preble Shawnee
Fri	Oct 11	All day	Away game @ Valley View
Sat	Oct 12	All day	Mason Competition
Fri	Oct 18	All day	Home Game vs Eaton (junior high DC trip)
Fri	Oct 25	All day	Home Game vs Brookville
Sat	Oct 26	All day	Miamisburg Competition
Fri	Nov 1	All Day	Away Game @ Oakwood
Sat	Nov 9	All Day	Marching Band Comp. Finals

# Additional Marching Band Items (Not included in Marching Band Fees)

The Following items are needed for students that are new to marching band, or need to replace previous items. These forms with money should be given to a band booster to have your order placed.

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

- **Marching Band Shirt:**(Sm-XL: \$15    2x: \$17    3x: \$18    4x: \$19)
  - Shirt Size: \_\_\_\_\_
- **DINKLE Black Marching Shoes:** (\$40)
  - Shoe Size: \_\_\_\_\_
- **Marching Gloves:** (\$3.00) (Wind Players Only)
  - Glove Size: (XS – XXL) \_\_\_\_\_
- **Flip Folder:** (\$15-\$20) (Wind Players Only) \_\_\_\_\_
- **Lyres:** (\$15 - \$20) (Wind Players Only) \_\_\_\_\_
- **Berets:** (\$20) (Percussion and Tuba Only) \_\_\_\_\_  
\*students will be measured by a booster member\*
- **Marching Band Jacket** (\$45) (required for Guard)
  - Jacket Size: \_\_\_\_\_
- **Color Guard Show Shoes** (\$40) (These are not your parade shoes)
  - Shoe Size \_\_\_\_\_
- **Color Guard Gloves:** (\$17)
  - Glove Size: \_\_\_\_\_
- **Warm-up Pants** (\$?) (Guard Only)
  - Pants Size \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*The above prices include tax\*\***

**Band**  
**Excused Absence Request Form**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Section \_\_\_\_\_

**Day/Date requested** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reason for Absence:** (check all that apply)

\_\_\_\_\_ Participation in meet/match/game/competition

\_\_\_\_\_ Severe Personal Illness

\_\_\_\_\_ Severe Family Illness

\_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Medical/Dental

\_\_\_\_\_ Other (please specify)

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**Reminder!!!** Work, babysitting, and similar reasons are NEVER considered an excused absence and will affect the student's grade.

**Perfect attendance:** Any absence, including excused, will count against the perfect attendance reward.

Signed by parent \_\_\_\_\_

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**For Band Director only**

\_\_\_\_\_ Excused \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Unexcused \_\_\_\_\_

Forms Checklist & Due Dates

\_\_\_\_\_ Marching Band Fees due 7/3/2019 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Extras order form and fees (example: flip folder, shoes, polo ect.) **Due June 4<sup>th</sup>**

\_\_\_\_\_ Marching band contract Due 7/3/2019

\_\_\_\_\_ **Emergency Medical Form Due Tuesday June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

It is my sincere hope that you find the marching band as an enjoyable experience as I do. The above rules have been developed in order that we ALL may have an enjoyable experience.

Please return the contract signature page to Mr. Long by June 4<sup>th</sup>

*This contract supersedes all others.*

## **Marching Band Expectations & Contract**

I have read, understand and agree to abide by the above rules and regulations for Franklin Wildcat Bands.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date