

Martin County High School Band
2011-12

Handbook of Policies, Guidelines
and Regulations

Michelle Brown, Band Director



Guidelines and Regulations of John Woodin, former Basketball Coach, UCLA

In any group activity there must be supervision and leadership and a disciplined effort by all or much of united strength will be dissipated, pulling against ourselves. If you discipline yourself toward team effort under the supervision of the one in charge, even though you might not agree with the decisions, much can and will be accomplished.

I am very interested in each of you as an individual, but I must act in what I consider to be the best interest of the team for either the moment or the future.

Your race or religion will have no bearing on my judgment, but your ability and how it works to my philosophy of team play very definitely will. Furthermore, your personal conduct and adherence to the standards that I make will undoubtedly be taken into consideration either consciously or unconsciously.

Confidence --- discipline. There is no replacement for sound fundamentals and strict discipline. They will reinforce you in the toughest circumstances.

The History of the Martin County High School Band

In February 1938, the Stuart High School Band was formed by Mrs. R. W. Hartman. She contacted and personally guaranteed Mr. J. C. Crowley, Director of High School Bands of Ft. Pierce, Vero and Melbourne Schools, that she could encourage a minimum of 35 students to participate in a band program. In return, Mr. Crowley agreed to help and within two weeks approximately a dozen instruments were accumulated and 35 students were recruited. The community in full support of the formation of a band program, pledged \$500 to help establish the band.

The band was composed of Jr. and Sr. High School students and lessons were taught for as little as \$2 a month and met in a log cabin to rehearse until 1967 when the band suite was constructed at the present site on Kanner Highway. The log cabin was later dismantled and rebuilt at Langford Park in Jensen Beach. The concert band received its first division rating at state concert the first time it attended. Standards were set high as the band competed in a classification higher than required for a school of its size.

The first uniforms were white pants, shirts and shoes. Later the city and County Commissioners were asked to donate enough money to make a down payment as official blue and white uniforms which cost \$18 each (a uniform today is approximately \$450). The remaining money was raised by the band performing Sunday concerts in the park.

In 1939, Ralph Hartman, Jr. was elected as Band Captain along with Ruth Wheat Madelren Tyson, and Dorothy Clements were selected as majorettes. A Band Parent organization was also formed to support the growing organization. Members of the Executive Board were: R. B. McPherson – President, Rev. T. C. O’Steen – Vice President, Mrs. R. Hartman – Secretary, J. C. Crowley – Musical Director, H. A. Wyckoff – band Manager, Evans Crary – Principal, LC Clemmons and Superintendent of Schools J. A. Jameson as Directors.

In April 1939, the Band Shell was designed by Mr. Crowley and built by band students, was dedicated in Memorial Park. In 1951, Earl Dyer Ricou, a member of the 1938 band, filmed the first motion picture of the band marching.

Between the forties, fifties and sixties, the band saw many directors who would stay for a year or two before moving on and it was not until 1963 with the appointment of Mr. Lemoyne Roll that the band experienced success and stability. Mr. Roll would remain as the Martin County High School Band Director until 1967, when Mr. Ken Mauger became the director until 1979 when he would turn the baton over to Mr. Dwight Robert Roadman.

Mr. Roadman began in the fall of 1979 and would serve as the director for the next thirty-one years and become the longest tenured band director in the history of the county. Under Mr. Roadman's baton the band would become one of the strongest most musical programs in the state of Florida. During Mr. Roadman's tenure the band received 30 years of superior ratings at both marching and concert festivals. The first state superior rating was received in 1985 and was one of only 7 bands in the state to make straight superiors that year. Of the 23 years appearances at state between the years of 1985-2008 the band received superiors.

In 1987, Mr. Earl H. Brown, longtime friend and colleague to Mr. Roadman, would serve as interim band director for the band while Mr. Roadman pursued a Master's in Wind Conducting from Louisiana State University (hence the 1987 trip to New Orleans to visit, DRR!). Mr. Brown would remain on for one year as assistant band director when Mr. Roadman returned until accepting an appointment as the Stuart Middle School band director. Mr. Charles Fulton would replace Mr. Brown as the assistant band director and would remain in that position until 1992 when he would leave to pursue a Master's in Music from Northwestern State University in Louisiana. Mr. Fulton was an alumnus of Martin County High School and was a trombone player in the band.

In 2010, Mr. Roadman, having become one of the most renowned band directors in the state of Florida and well-known throughout the south, retired and turned his baton over to Michelle Brown, a former musician and student of Mr. Roadman. Ms. Brown graduated from Martin County High School in 1993 and received both her Bachelor's and Master's from Northwestern State University in Louisiana. During her first year at MCHS, Ms. Brown has carried on the tradition established by Mr. Roadman and continued the band's success with superiors at marching, concert, and state music festivals.

The band prides itself in performing not only at local events but on an international level. The MCHS band has performed in the New York's St. Patrick's Day parade in 1990, 1994, and 2009, in Washing DC in 1984, in New Orleans in 1987, in Atlanta in 1998 and in 2002 the performed in concert in Shimoneseki City, Hiroshima, Japan as part of the prefecture Cultural Festivals. The band retains a close friendship with Funairi High School in Japan and often hosts the band from Funairi High School when it comes to the US to tour.

Martin County High School Band Director Honor Roll

1938-40 Thelma and Jim Crowley
1940-42 Bernard Coker
1942-43 Frances Alderman

1943-45 Harold Casterton
1945-46 Rosaro Cataldo
1946-51 Wendel D. Waters
1951-52 Melvin L. Wagner
1952-53 Roger Dancz
1953-54 Perry D. Alexander
1954-57 Asa Duncan
1957-62 Frank Lodwick
1962-63 Hugh M. Jones
1963-67 Lemoyne Roll
1967-79 Ken Mauger
1979-86 Dwight R. Roadman
1986-87 Earl H. Brown
1987-88 Dwight R. Roadman, Earl H. Brown
1988-92 Dwight R. Roadman, Charles B. Fulton
1992-2010 Dwight R. Roadman
2010-present Michelle B. Brown

Band Organizations

Symphonic Band is the showcase performing musical organization in the Martin County band program. Membership is based on audition and/or Director's recommendation. The Symphonic Band performs concerts in the school and community and represents Martin County High School in Florida Bandmasters Association assessments and other festivals. Symphonic Band members are required to participate in the marching phase of the band program. Exceptions to this rule (Medical Reasons, Varsity football player, etc.) will be reviewed by the Director of Bands. Students in the Symphonic Band are expected to practice their instrument daily, show exceptional self motivation and demonstrate the highest standards of musical dedication as well as a superior attitude each and every day.

Concert Band is comprised of students whose performance experience is more limited than that of the Symphonic Band. Membership is based on audition and/or Director recommendation. Performance requirements are similar to those described under Symphonic Band, but may not necessarily be identical. Students in the Concert Band are required to participate in the Marching phase of the band program. Exceptions to this rule are as stated for Symphonic Band.

Tiger Regiment is the name of the Martin County High School Marching Band. This unit is comprised of members from the Symphonic Band, Concert Band, and Color Guard. Performances include Parades, Football Games, Contests and Festivals. Performances and co-curricular rehearsals are required and are graded.

Color Guard is the visual ensemble of the Tiger Regiment. Members of the Color Guard are regular members of the band program and are required to observe all policies of the band department. Performances include those listed for the Tiger Regiment as well as Indoor Color Guard performances during the second semester, if applicable. Membership is based on audition and/or Director's recommendation. Color Guard members are required to audition and must attend a summer camp as well as the pre-school Blast-Off in order to be eligible.

Grading Procedures

Grades are based on the following criteria for all band department performance classes. Grades are based on the Martin County High School 100 point scale.

1. Daily participation = 25%
2. Co-curricular rehearsals and homework = 25%
3. Public performance, guest artist workshops and tests = 50%

Students are required by State Department of Education policy to maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0 in order to remain eligible for participation in F.B.A. assessments, festivals or other contests. Students who fail to meet this requirement may be suspended from performing with the MCHS Band. Students who fall below the GPA requirement may be placed in another class at the Director's discretion. Ineligibility may be considered sufficient grounds for dismissal from the band program.

Make-Up Assignments

- As is the case in all academic subjects, students who have an excused absence from a band class or co-curricular activity have the right to request make-up assignments.
- It is the responsibility of the student to make the request and to complete the assignments within the time allowed by MCHS policy, which is: 1 day to make arrangements for make-up work and 1 day for each absence is allowed for make-up of missed class work. **Makeup work will not be accepted late.**
- Unexcused absences may not be made up.
- If absence becomes excessive and/or a student is not making reasonable contributions as a member of the band program, the Band Director may suspend or remove a student from the band program.
- Students must submit an excuse form (available in the Band Office), completely filled out and signed, before any Co-curricular (after the school day or on a weekend) make-up assignments will be given.

Attendance

Scheduled members of the Band program at Martin County High School must attend all official functions by the Band or unit of the band of which they are a member. Official functions are required and graded. They are not optional. Official functions include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Concerts
2. Adjudicated Festivals, Contests and Assessments
3. Scheduled Football Games, both home and away
4. Parades
5. Out of town performances (including those which require fund raising &/or fees)
6. Dress Rehearsals for performances and guest artist workshops
7. Assembly programs, Concerts, or other performances during the school day

8. Co-curricular rehearsals, whether after school, evenings, or weekends

Excusable absences from official functions include:

1. Sickness (medical documentation is needed)
2. Death in the family
3. Unavoidable emergencies (documentation will be required)
4. Martin County High School events which meet the following criteria:
 - The event was scheduled **prior** to the beginning of the school year (as listed on the school calendar) **and** which conflict **directly** with the performance schedule listed in the appendix of this handbook.
 - Participation by the student in the conflicting event is mandatory and no other alternatives are possible.
 - College classes must have documentation (a copy of the IRSC schedule with the class time).

Excusable absences which meet the criteria, above, for the entire school year MUST be submitted on an excuse form with all necessary documentation no later than Friday, August 19, 2011. Forms are available in the Band Office. Conflicts which arise after that date are not excusable. Unexcused absences will result in a grade of "zero" for that assignment.

Note to students and parents:

- School sponsored or personal events which arise during the school year and which conflict with the published performance dates as stated in this handbook **will not** be excused.
- Travel to college or professional sporting events, trips to amusement parks, shopping trips, cruises, vacations and any other non-essential travel DOES NOT excuse a band member from official functions nor from class. The result for such an absence will be a zero.
- Willful unexcused absence will result in loss of credit and may result in further disciplinary action.
- The submission of a falsified excuse form will be grounds for severe disciplinary action and possible dismissal from the Martin County High School Band.
- Classes scheduled after the beginning of each semester, once the band schedule has been released, collegiate or otherwise, will not be excused.

Official Functions – Rehearsal and Performances, Co-Curricular

- Due to the complex nature of a quality band program and the many demands, rehearsals outside of class time are necessary. Generally, such rehearsals are scheduled well in advance so that conflicts can be avoided. All performances and extra rehearsals are co-curricular and are required. Excuse forms for performances scheduled in this handbook are due before Friday, August 19, 2011 DURING CLASS.
- All marching rehearsals are scheduled outside of class time. This is due to the fact that students in the marching band never meet together during the school day. Marching

rehearsals are scheduled for Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM during football season and several Friday morning rehearsals. **Please see the Rehearsal Schedule included in the back of the Handbook.** Sectional rehearsals may be included as part of the rehearsal time. Sectionals are not optional. Students will be given at least two weeks notice for a sectional and will be expected to make accommodations to attend these sectionals. In a case where an absence is unavoidable, a make-up assignment consisting of a recording of performance music will be required the day after the sectional occurs. In the event of inclement weather (often a problem in South Florida) it may become necessary to call a Wednesday rehearsal or a Friday “non-school day” rehearsal. See note on pages 6-7.

- Rehearsal time is 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM. Please note, that by the time the students leave the field at 8:30, return to the band room and put up their instruments, it will be closer to 8:45 PM, so allow time for them to do that.
- Students are required to have rain ponchos at all outdoor rehearsals as well as water, Gatorade, etc. Bare feet, sandals, flip-flops, etc. are prohibited at all marching band rehearsals.

Additional Performances and Procedures

During the course of the school year, there will be additional performances which are not listed on the performance page of this handbook. Students with an excusable reason for missing one of these performances must submit an excuse form (available in the Band Office) **at least two weeks** prior to the date in question. If an added performance conflicts with a prior school related function, the event which was scheduled first should be the priority.

Rehearsal Procedures

Since rehearsal time is short, every moment must be used wisely. The following guidelines must be observed by each member of the band in each rehearsal, both in school and after school.

- There are to be NO cell phones present in the rehearsal room during rehearsal for any reason. Cell phones WILL be confiscated during rehearsal and will be taken to the Dean.
- Be on time. Band students are given an extra 4 minutes past the tardy bell. Take care of personal needs during passing time between classes, not during class. Students are expected to have all items needed for rehearsal and to be in your place at the beginning of rehearsal.
- Have all materials needed for the rehearsal. Music is needed in EACH marching rehearsal even if the music is memorized.
- Have a pencil ON YOUR STAND at all indoor rehearsals.
- NO food, drinks or gum are permitted in rehearsal. A participation grade of zero will be given to those who choose to ignore this rule.

- **There is to be no talking during rehearsal!!!** Questions which arise during a rehearsal are to be directed to the podium, not your neighbor. Section leaders are to give instruction to your section only when asked to do so by the Director. Talking and/or disruption of rehearsals will result in a participation grade of zero.
- Rehearsal is serious business. Take it seriously. This means everyone!!
- Superior performance is the result of superior rehearsal and superior individual practice, not past reputation!
- Band students are expected to control their behavior and remain engaged in rehearsals and performances at all times while in the music building or while representing the MCHS Band program. Violations to these expectations will result in suspension or dismissal at the discretion of the Band Director.
- Students are expected to clean and organize the band room at the conclusion of each rehearsal and performance. Students will be assigned cleaning responsibilities which will be considered part of the daily grade. Failure to clean, stack chairs, etc. as assigned will result in a participation grade of zero.

Individual Practice

It is each band member's duty to practice his or her music outside of band rehearsal time on a daily basis. Practice should be spent on music, scales, etudes, long tones, and/or lip slurs. Effective individual practice can reduce the time spent in group practice after school. Color Guard members are expected to practice their equipment work and/or choreography at home as well as during class and co-curricular rehearsals.

Students are strongly encouraged to take private lessons from a qualified instructor. This is the very best way for a student to improve his or her performance level. It is permissible for students to use class time for individual or group lessons as approved by the Director.

Challenges

Music challenges are open to any band member who wishes to improve his/her chair position. Challenges will be heard by the Director behind a screen. Challenges will consist of major scales, chromatic scales, sight reading and any music in the folder of the student being challenged. There will be no challenges across parts in the two week period prior to a major performance unless called for by the Director. Occasionally, section challenges may be called by the Director for all or part of a section. If such a challenge is called, all seating will be designated by the Director. Challenges across parts or across instrumentation are not allowed in Marching Season with the exception of instrumental or visual solos.

Marching Band challenges are open to any band member assigned alternate status who wishes to secure a performing position. Challenges may be based on attendance, punctuality, marching fundamentals, music memorization, music preparation, equipment work or knowledge of a given drill spot in a show. Students will be asked to "mirror" one another during drill

rehearsals and/or perform the spot alone. All changes will be designated by the Director or designee.

- Due to the complex nature of the marching band activity, it is not possible to give a starting position in the show to every individual student. Those who do not have a starting position are known as alternates.
- Since all marching is taught and rehearsed after school, absence from a marching rehearsal may and probably will result in a change of personnel plus a possible loss of credit.
- Students in the marching band may be designated as alternates based on the following: Absence (whether excused or unexcused), unacceptable performance level, inexperience, attitude or the simple fact that someone else was simply a better performer.
- Both students and parents must accept that alternate status does not excuse a student from attending all band activities.

Football Season

Inspection – Football Season

- Uniforms will be inspected prior to each home game.
- Students are required to provide a dated receipt from the cleaners (for a Band Uniform), as part of the performance grade for home games. Generic cleaning receipts or credit card receipts will not work!
- Students will also be inspected for: Uniform parts properly worn (including black band shoes, black socks and band shirt), instrument clean and in proper working order, all accessories as required, NO visible jewelry or nail polish is permitted in marching performances with the exception of **1 pair** of small stud earrings (BB sized).
- Inspection is part of your performance grade and may count up to 50% of a given grade.
- All hair must be put up in a rubber band or hairnet when wearing the marching band hat. Hair cannot touch the collar of your marching uniform jacket.
- Gloves must be clean and fingers cut out for woodwind players.

Football Season and Inclement Weather

Students in the MCHS Band perform at all home football games as well as designated away games. All football related performances are required of band students. In the event that a regularly scheduled football game must be postponed and re-scheduled due to weather or other unforeseen events, the MCHS Band is expected to perform on the newly selected date. Re-scheduled games may be played within a few days of the originally scheduled date or may be played as a make-up game at the end of the season. In either event, students should be aware of this possibility and plan accordingly. There are also times when rehearsals may be cancelled due to inclement weather. Rehearsals may be rescheduled in order to make up for lost rehearsal time. The director will give students a minimum of 2 weeks' notice for a rescheduled

rehearsal. This allows work schedules to be adjusted. Students and parents are expected to be flexible and work conflicts out as much as possible.

Dry Cleaning- Football Season

- It is the responsibility of the student to have marching uniforms **professionally** dry cleaned prior to each home football game.
- When dirt and wrinkles are visible, the uniform must be dry-cleaned before any performance. Uniforms will be inspected prior to each home game.
- Students will provide a receipt from the cleaners for the band uniform as part of the performance grade for home games. Generic receipts or credit card receipts from a dry cleaner are not accepted. Receipts **must** have the student's name on it.
- Students will be expected to dry clean the uniform after the Christmas parade which is the last performance in the marching uniform for the season. Uniforms are due back to the band room no later than the Friday following the Christmas parade. Turning in the uniform, in its entirety, with a dry cleaning receipt is a portion of the semester final exam.
- Hats are expected to be wiped clean of dust and dirt throughout the season. Windex is a suitable solvent for cleaning the hat as well as the hat box.

Dry Cleaning – Concert Season

Concert Uniforms are to be cleaned before each performance. Shirts are to be pressed and white for a performance. A dry cleaning receipt which clearly indicates a **band uniform** must accompany all uniforms. Concert Uniforms are due no later than a week after our last spring concert. Turning in the uniform, in its entirety, with a dry cleaning receipt is a portion of the semester final exam. Generic receipts or charge slips will not be accepted as a dry cleaning receipt. Receipts **must** have the student's name on it.

Conduct

- Appearance must be neat at all times when in uniform and/or while representing the Martin County High School Band.
- Proper language is to be used at all times and students representing the band should be well groomed. The conduct of each band member should be exemplary because the band is on constant public display.
- Unnatural hair color, inappropriate or excessive jewelry (as determined by the Band Director), inappropriate or unacceptable clothing (as determined by the Band Director) will not be permitted during Major Events of the MCHS Band. Each student should reflect the keen sense of pride and esprit-de-corps that is the hallmark of the Martin County High School Band.
- There is to be no smoking or use of any tobacco products by students involved in band activities.
- Students in the band program are expected to know the difference between proper behavior and improper behavior, and to choose that which is proper....every time. Those who do not choose to do so do not belong in this band.

Needless to say, the following infractions are cause for severe disciplinary action and possible suspension or dismissal from the Martin County High School Band:

1. Willful destruction or theft of school property and equipment.
2. Willful destruction or theft of personal property and equipment.
3. Possession or use of illegal drugs, alcohol, or any mind altering substance on or before a school related function, or while representing the MCHS Band in any way.
4. Any behavior or action which violates the law or School District policy.

Performance Etiquette and Attire

Students in the Martin County High School Band program are expected to demonstrate propriety at all times while representing the Band, the school or the community. Proper attire is expected at all times, whether on stage or in the audience. Flip-flops are not proper attire, nor are any shoes which **look** like flip flops from a distance.

Symphonic Band Uniforms are to include:

- Solid black formal dress shoes for both ladies and gentlemen.
- Formal shirts for the Gentlemen
- A single strand of white pearls for the Ladies as part of the symphonic attire

Short skirts should not be worn to school events, especially performances. Gentlemen are reminded that hats are NEVER to be worn when inside. Jewelry which detracts from performance is never to be worn, nor is excessive cologne or other type of scent. Unnatural hair coloring is prohibited in performances. Behavior must be exemplary at all times. There is to be no talking during performances whether on stage or in the audience. Students who represent the Martin County High School Band are to do so with the utmost of respect and dignity.

Fund Raising Activities

Fund raising is a fact of life in any school related activity. **All band members** will be required to participate in those fund raising activities throughout the year. All programs will be well structured so that profits to the band program will not place excessive time demands on any individual band member. For this to work, each student must do his or her fair share. Fund raising activities may include:

These fundraisers go towards supporting the daily functioning activities of the band:

- Christmas Tree / Wreath Sale –expected to fundraise \$300.00, or a buyout @ \$150.00
- Flower Cards – 5 cards @ \$35.00 each, or a buyout @ \$100.00
- Concert Tickets – 5 tickets @ \$10.00 each twice a year, or a buyout @ \$100.00
- Silent Auction- Each student is expected to furnish two auction-able items
- Booster Dinner- 5 tickets, or buyout at \$50.00

100% of these fundraisers go directly towards student's trip account:

- A-thons (walk, play, bowl)
- Car Wash/Detailing
- Sponsorships

- Performances around the community for donations
- Other fundraisers set aside specifically for a trip year

Special fund raising events may be scheduled as needed when the band is to travel. The cost of such major trips may be paid in full by those students who choose not to participate in these special fund raising activities.

Parent Volunteers

It is not only the Director and the students who contribute to a successful program, but it is also the parents. Parents serve as the backbone of any good organization providing support through chaperoning, assisting in fundraisers, sewing uniforms, working in the concession stand, and various other activities. Without the parents, there is no band.

Each parent is asked to volunteer at least 20 hours a year to the band program. These hours are part of the qualifications for each band student to receive their band jacket at the end of their sophomore year. If the 20 hours are not completed after receiving a band jacket, the result will be an obligation to repay the basic cost of the jacket (\$80 – as per the signed band jacket contract). If the 20 hours are not completed before receiving the jacket, the jacket will not be awarded.

Below are examples of the hours one may receive for various functions:

- Blast-Off – 2 hours each day for dinner
- Football Games – 5 hours
- Parades – 3 hours
- Festival Contest – 5 to 10 hours
- Concerts – 3 hours
- Fundraising - 3 - ? (Dependent upon the fundraiser)
- Uniform Fitting – 3 – 7 hours

Band Parent Meetings – 30 minutes for each meeting. Parents are required to attend the first band parent meeting of each semester with their child. This is a grade for their child and appropriate documentation is required should an absence be needed. Other meetings are scheduled regularly throughout the year.

There are also various opportunities to chair a committee or oversee a function which may be a one-time event. In this case, volunteer hours will vary.

Expenses

The cost to students in the Martin County High School Band is minimal when compared to many other bands. Students in the band program are expected to furnish the following personal items which are needed for participation. Kits will be available to purchase through the Band Office. Band shoes must be **paid in cash**. Dress Right does not accept checks or credit cards.

Black military oxford shoes	(\$26 – available from Dress Right Performance Wear)
Solid Black Crew socks (NO no-shows or low-cut socks)	(provide on your own)
2 prs. White Gloves	(\$4.00 – available in Kit items)
Clear Rain Poncho	(\$6.00 – available in Kit items)
Zip-up Garment Bag	(\$10.00 available in Kit items)
Music Flip Folio with 10 windows	(\$8.00 – available in Kit items)
Extra Pages for Flip Folio	(\$.50 – available in Kit items)

TOTAL KIT PRICE-\$28.00

<u>Uniform Rental Fee</u>	(\$50.00 per year) – Payable to MCHS Band
Zip-up Garment Bag – if needed	(\$10.00 for returning band members if needed)

<u>School Instrument Rental Fee</u>	(\$75.00 per year for concert instruments)
<u>Marching Instrument Rental Fee</u>	(\$50.00 for Marching Season instruments)
<u>Percussion Rental Fee</u>	(\$125.00 per year) This fee does not include sticks or mallets. Sticks and mallets, as well as a mallet bag are to be provided by each student for both marching and concert season.

<u>Band Fee</u>	(\$150.00 per year). – Payable to MCHS Band. This fee covers the band shirt, Blast-Off Staff and some transportation.
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School Owned Property

It is every band member's responsibility to show the utmost care for all band equipment, instruments, uniforms, music and the band facility. Percussionists are expected to keep the storage areas clean and organized. All percussion equipment is to be stored properly at the conclusion of each rehearsal. All percussion students are required to assist in this effort on a daily basis. **No food or drink is permitted in the band room, practice rooms, hallways or storage rooms.** Personal items, including books, clothing and food are not to be stored in the music building. Vandalism or willful damage to the band facility or any band property will be considered grounds for severe disciplinary action and/or dismissal from the band program. Put all trash in a trash can.

Please note that students who rent a school instrument are responsible for that instrument while it is signed out to you. Any repairs, damage, loss or theft is the responsibility of the student. School instruments are NOT to be played by anyone else for any reason. Students are responsible for furnishing their own mouthpiece/ligature for any school owned instrument.

Officers

Student officers of the MCHS Band are selected annually. The students serve as leaders of the band and must display the highest quality of musicianship and character. Commissioned offices are selected by the Band Director. Commissioned offices shall be:

Drum Major*

Band Captain

Woodwind Captain(s)

Brass Captain(s)

Percussion Captain

Guard Captain

All Commissioned Officers must attend a leadership camp of the Band Director's choosing. These officers will be responsible for leading sectionals, teaching drill and marching fundamentals.

Students who wish to hold a sergeant office must submit a written application to the Band Director who will make all selections. Selection is based upon the students past record of achievement, grade point average, attitude, musicianship and teacher recommendations. Sergeant offices will include:

Secretary

Librarian

Quartermaster

Facility Manager

Equipment Manager

* Since the Drum Major is an auditioned position, the Drum Major MAY hold another office as well. All Drum Majors are required to attend a summer Drum Major camp as assigned by the Band Director and may be required to provide his/her uniform.

Officer Meetings and Officer Workdays will be scheduled at least once a month throughout the school year. These meetings and work days will be held on the first Wednesday of **every** month from 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM. When the meetings fall on Early Release days, meeting times will be determined by the Director. Officers are expected to attend all band functions unless an excused absence is unavoidable. Documentation will be required. Failure to attend 2 functions/meetings will result in removal from office.

Awards

The Martin County Band holds an annual awards banquet each spring. The following awards are available to students who maintain a grade of B or higher in Band/Color Guard, have no unexcused absence from an official band function and participate for the entire school year.

1. Letter or Bar
2. Most Improved Musician 9, 10, 11,12
3. Most Outstanding Musician 9,10,11,12
4. Most Valuable Marching Band Member
5. Most Improved Color Guard Member
6. Most Outstanding Color Guard Member
7. John Philip Sousa Award (only Seniors are eligible for this award)
8. Patrick Gilmore Award

9. SUDA Award

Award winners will be selected by the Band staff and will be based upon accomplishments within the band.

Band jackets for Sophomores.

Travel

- In as much as the band will travel a great deal, special regulations are set up for this type of activity.
- The mode of travel will be provided or approved by the school. Students must travel to the performance by the means provided. Exceptions, in the case of emergency, must be approved by the Band Director and Principal.
- Students may not return by any means of transportation other than that provided with one exception. Students may RETURN from a band trip with their parent or legal guardian only, provided that written request is submitted to the Director a minimum of 48 hours prior to the departure from school, AND the parent or legal guardian must personally take custody from the Director. DO NOT ASK THE DIRECTOR TO MAKE AN EXCEPTION.
- Each student is responsible for loading his or her own equipment prior to departure and for securing all equipment prior to dismissal. Those returning from a band trip with your parents must take your instrument or other equipment with you!
- Students may not change busses once assignments are made. Sign-up for the bus you wish to ride and stay there. Do not ask the Director to make an exception to this rule.
- Students are advised to leave expensive personal items at home while on band trips. Personal stereos are never to be played except through headphones. These items are to be turned off when asked to do so. Failure to abide by these rules will result in the confiscation of your stereo.
- Obey staff, chaperones and drivers.
- NO chaperone or parent may give you permission to change MCHS Band rules.
- Movies (on motor coaches so equipped) must be approved by the Director. **Grease** is not allowed at any time.....☺.....REALLY!!!

MCHS BAND HANDBOOK SIGNATURE FORM

RETURN THIS FORM TO THE BAND ROOM

I (Print student name here)_____ have read the Martin County High School Band Handbook and I understand that by becoming a member of this organization, I am bound to abide by all Policies, Guidelines and Regulations contained herein. Furthermore, I understand that all consequences for failure to do so are my responsibility.

I understand that all performance dates are listed in this Handbook are required. Excuse forms, with documentation, for excusable conflicts with these dates are due by Friday, August 19, 2011. Any events, school or otherwise, which arise after this time will not be considered as excusable. Excuse forms for any performance dates added during the year are due two weeks prior to the date in conflict.

Signature of Band Member _____
I have read this handbook.

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____
I have read this handbook.

This form, the Emergency Medical Treatment Form and the Photo Release Form are due, signed, by Friday, August 19, 2011. Please note that the medical release form **MUST BE NOTARIZED**. A notary is available in the MCHS Front Office. **This is your first test grade.**

In the space below, please list any medical conditions of which the Band Director should be made aware of. This will be kept confidential.

Print Student Name _____

Your home phone number _____

Parent Cell phone number _____

Parent/Guardian work numbers _____

Family Doctor and phone number _____

List Hospitalization Plan and Number _____

IMPORTANT: Please attach a list of any **Medical Conditions, Allergies, Prescription medications, etc.** This information will be kept confidential.