

WSHSB DRESS CODES

Revised 09/09/2024

PARENTS: Please review the following dress codes for weekly band practices, concerts and Summer Marching **with your student(s), Cadets included.** See all the specific details about shirts, pants, shoes and socks, etc. Review them again a couple weeks before each concert or performance. At that time, check the fit and readiness of the items they will need to wear. **DO NOT CALL the week of or, much less, the day before a performance and expect a jacket/pants exchange or fitting.**

DRESS CODE OVERVIEW

For quick reference, this set of Dress Codes may be accessed directly from the [Forms/Documents](#) webpage.

If an individual chooses to become a member of the WSHSB band, he will be required to comply with the band's Dress Code and Code of Conduct. The following dress codes are a requirement for membership in our organization. **They are not optional.** If this code is beyond what a member thinks he can comply with, it would be better for both him and the band that he not join.

DRESS CODE FOR PRACTICES and MARCHING CAMP

We will hold parents responsible to insure their child's personal appearance including clothing provide a fitting testimony to a Christian home school band. We should honor the Lord through what we wear. When a prospective home schooling family visits us, they come to evaluate our band to see if it is a good fit for their family. One way they judge the band is by how our individual members look.

Clothing, hair styles and accessories chosen to attract undue attention, are unacceptable. **Band members must remove any hat before taking your place at band practice.**

Outfits that are **immodest, low cut scoop-neck, too tight, short, loose, sheer, torn**, contain inappropriate messages or symbols and any hair color that is not a naturally occurring shade are not acceptable.

ADDED 04/13/23. No short-shorts. Shorts need to be Bermuda-like shorts (nothing shorter), no leggings, no tank tops, and no spaghetti straps. IN ADDITION FOR CAMP all the preceding plus no skimpy or tight-fitting tops worn to camp. There should be **no bare midriffs or shoulders.** Everyone must wear good shoes that cover and support your feet, **no sandals or flip-flops.**

Parents, please show appropriate consideration. No one should be put in the awkward position of dealing with, or being told their appearance or dress is inappropriate at band practice or other public appearance. If a student comes dressed inappropriately they will be given an XXL t-shirt to wear for the duration of rehearsal/camp.

WSHSB DRESS CODE FOR DRESS REHEARSALS, CONCERTS and SUMMER MARCHING

NOTE: The band director reserves the right to deny anyone's participation in a performance due to inappropriate dress or appearance.

The basic dress code for all begins with black on the bottom and white on the top. This applies to students AND adults; all those performing in concerts, marching with the WSHSB Patriots or performing at football games, etc. For a uniform look it includes band members, banner assistants, flag bearers, guard unit, Patriot auxiliary, safety marshals, and Little Patriots. Details follow for what is and is not acceptable. The Summer Marching Dress Code is slightly different from the Concert Dress Code with those differences noted accordingly.

TOPS – *Unacceptable tops is one of the biggest problem areas. Please read carefully.*

- **CONCERT SEASON** - White, woven, **LONG-sleeved**, button-down dress shirt **with pointed collar**, which must be buttoned **all the way up to the neck** to accommodate bow ties.
- **SUMMER MARCHING** - White, woven, **SHORT-sleeved**, button-down dress shirt **with pointed collar**. No rolled-up long sleeves or sleeveless shirts. Only the collar/top button may be undone.
- Shirt must be long enough to be tucked-in. No exposed midriff. We suggest girls wear a boy's or small men's dress shirt.

- No tight-fitting shirts and no shirts with v-necks, Peter-Pan collars, lacy trim, ruffles or puffed sleeves. No satiny, shiny or sheer material. No knits, pullovers, t-shirts, tank tops, turtle or mock necks.
- **Only solid white or flesh-tone undergarments.** Other colors show through. *Even though we give multiple reminders prior to each dress rehearsal and concert, there remains a problem especially with not adhering to this last point. We need EVERYONE to comply. Highlighting added for emphasis.*

BOTTOMS

- Girls have the option of wearing a conservative, modest, below the knee or longer skirt, with only small slits if necessary. No denim or leather. **See the Regarding Skirts section near the end of these Dress Codes.**
- Due to the changing fads in women's pants towards revealing, form-fitting leggings, the dress code has changed to be more specific: Both men and women (not wearing a skirt) are officially required to wear conservative "trouser-style" dress pants. No tight-fitting, denim/jeans, low-rise, or Capri-style pants. There should be no ornamentation such as studs, rhinestones or embroidery.

Parents, help us maintain a uniform look to our band by providing the proper style pants for your children. The band has black pants you may borrow.

SHOES and SOCKS

- For girls wearing a skirt, as of June 2021, it was voted to change the dress code to black tights/nylons, year round for both the **CONCERT SEASON** and **SUMMER MARCHING**.
- Anyone wearing pants must wear black, opaque, dress/trouser socks. Socks must be long enough so no color other than solid black is visible below the hem of the pants, when seated.
- Black leather shoes of a conservative style with a low heel and sole. Shoes must be **solid black** with no other colors or ornamentation. If shoes are laced, laces must be black. No gym shoes, sandals, boots or flip-flops.

See the Regarding Marching Shoes section at the end of these Dress Codes.

CUMMERBUNDS and BOW TIES

Neither is worn by Cadets.

- **BOW TIES for CONCERTS ONLY** supplied by band – worn by Concert Junior, Senior and Symphonic. Distributed at band the week before concert and collected the week after concert.

RETURNING BOW TIES

If your bow tie is coming apart you have one of two choices when returning it –

Make the necessary sewing repairs **with red thread** before returning it and owe nothing.

OR

Pay \$5 along with the unrepaired bow tie. Make it known that it needs repair

- **CUMMERBUNDS for CONCERTS AND SUMMER MARCHING** supplied by band –
CONCERTS – worn by Concert Senior and Symphonic. Distributed at band the week before concert and collected the week after concert.
SUMMER MARCHING – worn by all but Little Patriots. Distributed at parade and collected immediately after parade.

BLUE SYMPHONIC JACKETS

Symphonic members wear blue jackets, provided by the band. For details about how to get/return a jacket, see the "Jacket and Pants Fitting" section below.

AWARDS and JEWELRY

- Award medals must be pinned on the red award ribbon (supplied by the band) which is worn on the left side of the shirt (Cadet, Concert Junior and Concert Senior) or jacket (Symphonic). The top of the ribbon should be even with the lowest tip of the collar point. Ask for a ribbon if you need one.
- Jewelry should be limited to a wristwatch, small rings (so they cannot be seen by the audience), and small earrings. Boys are not allowed to wear earrings.

HAIR and MAKEUP

- Any hair accessories such as barrettes or headbands must be solid red or white, or must match the student's hair color.
- No outstanding makeup, nail colors, hairstyles, or trendy fashions that attract attention to a student's appearance over that of the band as a whole. No unnatural shade of hair color.

MARCHING HATS (BERETS) – PARADES ONLY

Hats are worn by those marching in our parades during the summer. Hats are distributed to all musicians at our last meeting the week after our Spring concert. Musicians return their hats in the fall on the designated date. Flag bearers and any others needing hats get them at the parade and return them immediately after the parade.

REMAIN IN CONCERT OR PARADE DRESS

- Remain in your **CONCERT** dress, [until you leave the event](#). Shirts are to stay on and tucked-in. Bow ties and cummerbunds should also be left on unless they are being collected immediately after the performance.
- Remain in **PARADE** dress after the parade and cummerbund is returned. That means shirts are to stay on, buttoned-up and tucked-in [until you leave the event](#).

REGARDING SKIRTS

Some have expressed difficulty in finding longer length skirts for girls to wear at concerts. Here are links to websites that carry concert dress items. Please use your own judgment as to which site to use or do a search for other concert dress sites.

[Formal Fashions Inc.](#) This site has become a favorite for the director. They offer modest fashions good for wearing anytime, reasonable prices, good fit and excellent customer service.

[Earl C Benson and Associates](#)

[ConcertDress.com](#)

[Band-Mart Choir-Mart](#)

REGARDING MARCHING SHOES

Some have asked about where to obtain comfortable, leather shoes for marching. Simply entering "marching shoes" in a search engine will give many resources. One style used by the director and her family, and which seem to last forever is the Speedster/Drillmasters style. They cost a bit over twenty dollars a pair and are available on many websites. Here is one example [Drillmaster-Speedsters Marching Band Shoes](#).

Jacket and Pants Fitting

We hold a jacket and pants fitting **[only once a year](#)**.

After this one and only fitting opportunity everything is packed away and not accessible.

[For the Jacket/Pants/Used Clothing coordinators is Mrs. Cordula Aguilar.](#)

Contact her with any questions.

The Jackets and Pants Fitting/Exchange is held on an evening or two in the first trimester. The location is announced in the Rehearsal Notes. The date is on the [Calendar](#) and in the weekly Rehearsal Notes. If you already have a blue band jacket and/or pair of black band pants, you need to try on the jacket and/or pants before the fitting date(s).

Except for the fitting day in November, all jackets and pants must be turned in directly to Mrs. Aguilar. – NOT to Mrs. Borow or to any Borow family member or placed in their van and/or brought to their house.

[RULE FOR RETURNING JACKETS AND PANTS](#) – If you have outgrown your blue Symphonic jacket or are returning it for any reason, return it with \$5 cash and we will have the jacket dry-cleaned. Band-owned pants are also dry-clean only and should also be returned with \$2 cash per pair of pants. All returns should be made to one of the Jacket/Pants coordinators, NOT MRS. BOROW.

New Symphonic Band members, who do not have a blue band jacket, will need to sign-up at band to come to the Jacket and Pants Fitting/Exchange to be fitted for a jacket. Any band member, from any level, who does not own a skirt or pants that meets the dress code criteria, may borrow a pair of black band pants and be fitted for them on the same dates. The pants we have are mostly Junior High sizes.

Sign-up at the front tables at band, or email or call the **Mrs. Aguilar** if you need to exchange or pick up a jacket or pants. She needs to know how many people to plan for and how many volunteers to recruit for assistance. She can also give directions to the location of the fitting. **DO NOT CALL the week of or, much less, the day before a performance and expect a jacket/pants exchange or fitting.**