

Tuscola High School Marching Mountaineers

Band Parent 101



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Welcome to Our Music Program

Congratulations and welcome to the Tuscola music family. Your student has excelled with their chosen instrument and has decided to take his or her talents to the next level. The marching band experience here at Tuscola High School is both challenging and rewarding and you'll see sides of your student you may not have seen before. Leadership skills, a sense of ownership and a level of pride in their work are just few "side effects" of band.

We truly are a family here. We work hard, play hard, celebrate together and always resolve to strive for excellence in our program.

The purpose of this guide book is to help you navigate the ins and outs of marching band and hopefully help make the experience a little less stressful and confusing, and a little more enjoyable.

Thank you for deciding to be a part of this experience with your student. Your involvement means more to your student than they may understand or express right now. We are excited you're both here and we can't wait to take this musical journey with you!

Our Staff

Mr. Tim Wise - Director of Bands

Timothy L. Wise received the Bachelor of Music Education in 1991 from Morehead State University in Morehead, Kentucky. While attending MSU, Mr. Wise studied with Dr. Richard Miles. In 2003, Mr. Wise received the Master of Arts in Education from Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, North Carolina studying under Dr. John West and Mr. Bob Buckner.

Mr. Wise has been the director of bands at Tuscola High School since the fall of 1993.

Mr. Dillion Ingle - Assistant Director of Bands

Dillion S. Ingle received the Bachelor of Science in Music Education from Western Carolina University in 2008. While attending WCU, Mr. Ingle studied under Dr. Mario Gaetano, Mr. Bob Buckner and Mr. Matt Henley. In 2015, Mr. Ingle received the Master of Arts in Music Education from Western Carolina University.

Additional Staff

Mr. Adam Stewart - Director of Bands, Waynesville Middle School

Mr. Sam Bogan - Assistant Director of Bands, Waynesville Middle School

Mr. Bobby Richardson - Color Guard and Visual Coordinator

Ms. Rachel Huertas - Assistant Color Guard and Winter Guard Instructor

Pick Up and Drop-off

Please drop off and pick up your student in the front of the school and not behind near the band room. With the limited space behind the school, traffic congestion is an issue and with so many students moving throughout the area it is a safety concern. You may park in a space in the large front parking lot or you may lineup single file along the sidewalk to retrieve your student. **This pick up and drop-off procedure should be followed all year for all events.**

The band rehearses outside in the lower section of the front parking lot in front of the tower. During these rehearsals, orange barrels will be placed around the field for the safety of the students. Please do not park or drive through these barricades.

You are encouraged to attend camp and any of the regular rehearsals, just be sure to park away from the band practice area, marked with orange barrels in the parking lot.

Band Camp and Practices

Unless otherwise noted on the annual schedule, all rehearsals will be at Tuscola High School.

Generally, our marching season will begin in mid-July with optional wind rehearsals. There are typically three of these practices scheduled, with the student obligated to attend at least two of the three. These rehearsals will be part of the schedule that is annually distributed at the spring registration event prior to the fall marching band season.

Band Camp

The band will gather for camp for two weeks at Tuscola High School near the end of July-beginning of August. Some members such as Color Guard and Percussion may hold camps prior to the full band. Please refer to the annual schedule for dates and times of these camps.

The band will be outside during camp as they learn the drill for their show. Be sure to send these items with your student:

- Instrument & Music/Guard Equipment
- Water jug
- Sunscreen
- Hat & Sunglasses
- Lunch

Camp days are long as the band prepares for the season, generally lasting from 9 AM to 9 PM.

Regular Rehearsals

Once the school year has begun, the band will hold regular rehearsals on Monday from 4:00PM - 6:00PM and Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 4 PM to 6:30PM. Color Guard and Percussion members may hold other rehearsals in addition to the regular schedule. That schedule will be distributed to those students.

Performance

Football Games - Home

The Marching Mountaineers perform before kickoff and at halftime of all Tuscola High School home football games. All home games are played at CE Weatherby Stadium, located at 495 Brown Ave, Waynesville on the campus of Waynesville Middle School.

On game days, the band will rehearse at the stadium immediately after school has been dismissed for the day beginning approximately at 3:30 PM. No transportation from the high school to the middle school is provided specifically for the band students, so they have these options:

- Ride any bus from first dismissal at the high school to the middle school
- Ride with a band student that drives
- They are picked up by you and taken to the middle school

Dinner is provided for the students after breaking from rehearsal at approximately 5:30 PM. The band students will then dress in their uniforms in the middle school band room about 6:30 PM, and go through their warm up routines outside. They typically head to the stadium about 7:10 PM. The white band shirt that each student receives should be worn under their uniform for home football games.

Football games kickoff at 7:30 PM, and you are encouraged to arrive early as parking is limited. Your game day parking options:

- You may park for free along the streets surrounding the school or along Brown Avenue

- You may also park for free in the flat lot across Brown Avenue. There are a limited number of spots in this lot, and it is first come, first served.
- Season football tickets (\$50.00) and a parking pass (\$25.00) may be purchased from the school office. This will allow you to park in the lot behind the stadium.

Please do not park in the lot behind the middle school cafeteria. This lot is specifically for the visiting school's buses. You will get towed from this lot.

After performing their pre-game show and the National anthem, the band will be sitting on the home side stands nearest the concession stand. This section is roped off for them by the chaperones. You are welcomed to sit behind the band with other band parents. The band does perform the school fight song and other pieces in the stands during the game to excite the crowd and encourage the football team.

Midway through the second quarter, the band will exit the stands to begin warming up for their halftime performance. If you have volunteered to be a member of the pit crew, you will gather at the truck located behind the end zone. Be sure to be loud, cheering on your student as the band enters the stadium for their performance!

After they perform, the students are given the third quarter off to visit with you or grab a bite to eat from the concession stand. They're usually hungry, so be sure to send cash with them or plan to meet them during this quarter. They must report back to the stands before the beginning of the fourth quarter, where they will again be performing until the end of the game.

At the conclusion of the game, the band will return to the middle school band room to undress, pack up their instruments and tidy up. After they have finished, you may pick up your student outside of the middle school band room. The students do not return to Tuscola after home games.

Football Games - Away

The band does not perform their halftime show at away games. However, they do attend a most away games and perform in the stands. The band will travel to these games on activity buses (color guard members may travel as well, but it is not mandatory). Departure times will vary, be sure to check the schedule in the weekly newsletter.

After the game, a notice will be sent via Remind (see section Tools) to let you know when the band is expected to arrive back at Tuscola.

Competitions

For a marching band, Saturdays in the Fall mean one thing...SHOWTIME! It's why they put in the countless hours of practice and rehearsal time. These are the days that they, and we, will remember for a lifetime.

Competition days will vary from one to the other based on where and what time the band will be performing. What follows is a general outline of a competition day, be sure to check the schedule published in the weekly newsletter sent on Sundays for specific information regarding location, arrival and performance times for that week's competition. The band usually competes in four to five competitions a year. Transportation to these events is provided via activity buses or charter buses, depending on the travel time.

Generally, the band will rehearse at Tuscola before loading the instruments and props and embarking to the competition location. Depending on performance times, lunch or dinner may be provided to the students. Again, that week's specific schedule will provide details for you.

Band parents are encouraged to attend and volunteer as able at all competitions, and will attempt to sit together in the stands to watch the performance. When the band enters the stadium, be loud and let them know you're there! Feel free to applaud and cheer the soloist or other appropriate

parts during the show. When the band concludes, GO CRAZY! Let the judges know how much you loved the performance.

The band will typically stay for the awards program after all the other bands have competed. Anytime our name is called during this time is special. Our drum majors and guard captains will be on the field to accept awards, so be sure yell and cheer!

Once the awards program has concluded, the buses will be loaded and will travel back to Tuscola. As with any other travel the band does, a Remind message will be sent out with the band's expected arrival time at the school.

Parades

The band annually performs in two Christmas parades for the towns Waynesville and Canton. While date and times will vary year to year, the band will meet at the Walnut Plaza in downtown Waynesville at 5 PM for that parade. For the Canton parade, the band will meet at the Tuscola band room and travel via activity bus.

Annual Trip

Typically, the band makes one special trip year where they will perform, bond and celebrate the season. All band members are encouraged to attend these trips. In recent years, the band has performed at Walt Disney World, Bands of America Regional events, and various other locations.

The annual trip is unveiled each year during the show reveal event held in May.

Tools

The band employs several different tools to keep you informed about the band and your student.

Charms

Charms (<https://www.charmsoffice.com>) is a cloud based program that enables the band to manage your student's band account, allows for mass communication to both students and parents, and organizes volunteer opportunities and signups.

Remind

Remind (<https://www.remind.com>) is primarily used for scheduling alerts via text and/or email. Any time the band travels, you will receive an alert letting you know the estimated arrival time back to Tuscola High School.

eNewsletter

A weekly newsletter is sent out every Sunday during the marching season. This publication contains important news involving the band, the weekly schedule as well as links to the band's various utility websites such as Charms. You can sign up for the newsletter here: <http://eepurl.com/cXsiBX>

Social Media

The band is active across several social media platforms.

www.facebook.com/tuscolahsband

www.instagram.com/tuscolahsband

www.twitter.com/TuscolaHSBand

Fees and Payments

While every effort is made to keep the annual band fee to a minimum, the fee is necessary to facilitate travel costs and uniform upkeep. The annual fee will fluctuate from year to year, based on the travel schedule. Color Guard and Winter Guard teams each have a separate fee.

Mr. Wise will announce the yearly fee amount and distribute a payment schedule at the beginning of the marching season. It is important that your payments are turned in on time. Those payments should be deposited in the yellow deposit box in the band office, behind the door. Blank envelopes are provided on top of the box and should include your student's name and what the funds are for (i.e "band fee payment #1). Checks should be made payable to the Tuscola Marching Band.

Monthly student account statements are sent from Charms to your email. It is important to reconcile your statement and let Mr. Wise know of any discrepancies as soon as possible.

Band members will have several opportunities throughout the year to help offset these costs, such as citrus sales, car washes, and banner sales.

Fundraising

There are several ways for you and your student to raise funds to offset the costs of being a member of the Marching Mountaineers. Funds raised through these channels can be applied to yearly band fees, trip costs, attendance at the Summer Symposium at Western Carolina University or any other band sanctioned event.

Summer Car Washes

The band holds car wash dates several times during the summer at various locations around Waynesville. These events are for students to work, with any money received at the event being divided equally among the volunteers. Those funds are deposited directly into your student's band account. Signups are held each year at Registration Night for these events and are a first come, first served basis.

Banner Sales

The band solicits and sells vinyl banners for advertisement at CE Weatherby Stadium. These banners line the fence around the field all year. This activity is for parents to raise funds by contacting previous sales for renewal and prospects for new sales. These funds are deposited directly to your student's band account. Contact the Banner Sales chairperson to get prospects or renewals to contact.

Citrus Sale

The band conducts a yearly citrus sale in November with the student and the band dividing the profits. Your student may take citrus orders up to the deadline before turning in their order form to the Citrus Sale Chairperson. Once the deadline has passed, no further orders can be placed. The fruit will

arrive approximately three weeks after the deadline for distribution. The chairperson will announce the kickoff of the sale, along with all pertinent dates, and detailed instructions.

In addition to the ways for you and your student to raise money for their account, the band will also fundraise for its general operating fund during the year through the following:

Band Day

The band's largest fundraising initiative of the year, Band Day, is **mandatory** for all members of the band as well as volunteers. The day is typically scheduled for the second Saturday of September and is held at several sites around Waynesville. A Yard Sale, Bake Sale, and Cookout is held in the parking lot of the First Presbyterian Church in downtown. Multiple car wash locations and hat collection sites will also be active. All funds raised during Band Day is deposited to the General Fund for the band. Volunteers may sign up for specific events through Charms. Mr. Wise will assign duties and locations to the students. The day concludes with band performing on the steps of the courthouse in the early afternoon.

JV Football Concessions

The band gets a portion of concession sales from the Junior Varsity home football games. The stand is manned by band booster volunteers for the duration of each game. Typically there are four JV games a year, each on a Thursday night during the Fall. Volunteers may sign up through Charms, students do not need to sign up to work.

Auxiliary and Winter Guards

Enhancing each of the band's performances, is our award winning auxiliary/color guard. These students typically have their own specific schedules for band camp and practices.

Color Guard

Auditions for the color guard are typically schedule in April for the following Fall. Mr. Wise will include the tryout dates in the newsletter as those dates draw near.

Winter Guards

We offer two winter guard teams...Black Diamond and Tuscola Gold. Black Diamond is the novice group, typically made up of first or second year performers. Tuscola Gold competes in the Scholastic AA class, and this group is typically made up of seasoned performers.

Our Winter Guard practices begin in November, with performances scheduled January through March throughout North Carolina and the surrounding states. Schedules and associated costs are distributed after auditions.

Volunteer Position Descriptions

There are multiple volunteer opportunities with the band. What follows is a brief description of those and a general time estimate of what you can expect for each.

Student Meals

Estimated time: 2 hours

This group is responsible for feeding the band before home football games and competitions. They will also serve the meal to the Senior band members and their families on Senior Night.

Home Football Games

Volunteers should planning on arriving at Waynesville Middle School no later than 4 PM to setup. Coolers and tables will be located on the band trailer and will need to delivered to the breezeway behind the school cafeteria for setup. The Student Meal Chairperson will have food or will coordinate the delivery of food. Students will go through the food line shortly before 5 PM. After the meal is served, volunteers will clean up the area and return the tables and coolers to the band trailer.

Competitions

Meal times will vary based on the competition schedule. Communication of times will will coordinated by the Student Meal Chairperson. All setup/clean up duties apply at competitions as they do for home football games.

Senior Night

Senior Night is a special night where we bid farewell to our outgoing students. A special meal is served for the students and their guests inside the Waynesville Middle cafeteria. All other band students are served at the normal location under the breezeway.

Chaperones

Estimated time: 3 hours at a home football game; Away football games and competitions are for the entirety of the event.

This group ensures that all students are safe and doing what they have been instructed to do, as well as prepping the stands at the home football games.

Home Football Games

Volunteers should plan on meeting at the band trailer approximately two and half hours before kickoff. These items located on the trailer will need to be transported to the band section of the stands:

- Seat cushions (these are stored in the large trash cans on the trailer)
- Drink cooler of water bottles
- Trash bags
- Music crate
- Music posters
- Drum Major ladder

- Spirit Sales items, table and canopy tent

Seat cushions should be distributed throughout the first thirteen rows of the band section of the stands, typically ten cushions per row.

The plume box will need to be taken to the Waynesville Middle band room. Once the band begins their warmups outside the band room, volunteers will place a plume in each shako (hat). Be sure the plume is leaning forward. The drum line will also need to be plumes, they warm up outside the cafeteria parking lot behind the band room. Once that is complete the plume box should be taken to the stands.

Chaperones are free until the band completes the pre-game show. As the band exits the field from pre-game, each member should be given a bottle of water from the cooler.

Volunteers should sit behind the band and be available for any immediate needs such as retrieving extra water for a student, holding a cell phone, money, jacket etc. Also, volunteers should be monitoring to ensure only band students are in the section. Any non-band member should be politely asked to leave the area. Students understand that while they are in that uniform they are representatives of the school and are held to higher standards.

After the halftime performance, the students will re-enter the stands and plumes should be removed and placed back in the plume box. Once that is complete, the box should be returned to the trailer. The students have the third quarter off, and you are not required to chaperone them if they leave the stands during this time.

After the game, collect all the seat cushions and return them to the plastic trash cans. The stands should be free of any trash and all items should be returned to the trailer.

Once the equipment is returned to the truck, proceed to the band room for clean up. Be sure to straighten chairs, sweep and empty all trash.

Away Football Games

The band will depart from Tuscola approximately two hours before kickoff. The Chaperone Chairperson will assign the volunteers to a bus. Chaperone should take a head count and provide that to the driver.

Volunteers should sit with students in the stands and be available should a need arise.

After the game, take another head count to ensure all of the students are on the bus. Upon arrival back at Tuscola, the bus should be clean and trash deposited in the receptacle.

Competitions

Chaperones will typically ride the bus with the band. Departure times will vary, volunteers should plan on arriving at the predetermined time according to the weekly competition schedule. All bus duties described above for away football games also apply for competitions.

Each competition is different but chaperone's will need to be prepared to distribute plumes, acquire equipment from the trailer as needed or any other duties that arise.

Pit Crew

Estimated time: 1 hour

Our Pit Crew volunteers assist our front ensemble students get their equipment on and off the field. Pit Crew may also assist with putting props together and dismantling them after the performance as needed.

Home Football Games

Volunteers should meet at the band truck (parked behind the end zone) prior to the end of the 2nd quarter. The Pit Coordinator will assign volunteers to an instrument or piece of equipment. It is that volunteer's responsibility to get their assigned equipment on and off the field in a timely manner. Student will guide the volunteers on exactly where their assignment should be located on the field.

Competitions

Competition report times will vary depending on the performance time and location of the competition. The Pit Crew Chairperson is responsible for contacting each volunteer via email the week of the competition with meet times. Generally, volunteers should meet at the band trailer 45 minutes before the students perform.

All other duties described above for home football games also apply to competitions.

JV Football Game Concessions

Estimated time: 3 hours

Volunteers should report approximately an hour before kickoff and begin wrapping individual pizza slices. All other food will be prepared by the athletic staff.

Sell concession items and make correct change from the till. All money obtained belongs to the athletic department, so they will collect the drawer at the end of the evening. Any tips belong to the band (be sure to set out the band tip jar!).

Begin wrapping up shortly after the start of the 4th quarter. Leave the concession stand clean and orderly.

Spirit Sales

Estimated time: 2 hours

Home Football Games

Volunteers should arrive at the stadium 45 minutes prior to kickoff. All items needed for the spirit table (sale items, table and canopy tent) should be located near the band section of the stands.

The canopy tent and table should be set up along the fence row between the entry gate and concession stand. Sale items should be organized on the table and ready for sale.

Spirit Sales should continue through halftime, and broken down during the 3rd quarter. All items should be returned to the band trailer. The Spirit Sales Chairperson will have a money bag and all collected funds should be seal at

the end of the night. The chairperson is responsible for turning the money bag in.

Home Football Game Parking

Estimated time: 2 hours

Volunteers should arrive at two hours prior to kickoff at the VIP parking lot (located behind the stands). They direct cars and park accordingly until kickoff. At that time, the volunteers are free to go into the game.

Concessions

Estimated time: Various

Our band volunteers will man various concessions stands throughout the year to raise funds. Report times and time commitments will vary for each, the Concessions Chairperson will communicate those leading up to each event. All food and drink items meant for sale will be obtained by the Concession Chairperson prior to each event.

All District Tryouts

All District Band tryouts are held at Tuscola High School each January. The concession stand is located in the main lobby. The chairperson will collect all funds at the end of the event.

Town of Waynesville Street Dance

Street dances are held June through August each year. Dates and times are to be determined, but typically scheduled every other

Friday night through the time period (four to five dates a year). Volunteers should plan on committing three hours or so for this event.

Volunteers should retrieve sale items from the booster room at Tuscola, along with two collapsable tables. The stand should be set up at the steps of the courthouse in downtown. Sales should continue until just before the conclusion of the event. All items should be brought back to the booster room and stored neatly. Any items such as spoons, towels and crockpots should be cleaned and ready for the next use before being returned to the booster room.

Band Exhibition Night Concessions

Volunteers man the concession stand at Weatherby Stadium for the annual Band Exhibition Night. Typically, this is divided into two shifts of volunteers. The first shift should plan on arriving at the stadium by 4 PM for setup. The second shift should report by 7:15 PM and remain for clean up. The Concession Chairperson will coordinate all activities for the evening.

Receptions

Estimated time: 1 hour

Volunteers provide a reception for students, parents, family and friends following the Christmas and Spring concerts. Arrival times will be communicated by the Reception Chairperson the week of the event.

Annual Schedule - 2019

June

13 Rifles Rehearsal 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

26-27 Guard and Percussion Mini Camp 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

July

16 All Winds Rehearsal 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

16 Guard Rehearsal 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

18 Band Parents Executive Board/Committee Chair Meeting 6:30 PM

23 All Winds Rehearsal 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

30 Percussion/Guard Camp. 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

31 Percussion/Guard Camp. 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

31 Rookie Winds Camp/Uniform Fittings 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

August

1 Full Band Camp 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

1 Band Parent Dessert Meeting 6:30 PM

5-6 Full Band Camp 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM

7 Full Band Camp 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

8 Full Band Camp/Picture Day 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM

12 Full Band Camp 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

13 Full Band Rehearsal 5:15 PM - 8:40 PM

13 Cookout and Performance 6:00 PM

15 Full Band Rehearsal 5:00 PM - 8:30 PM

19 Regular Rehearsal Schedule Begins (Guard Tuesdays Aug-Sept 6:00 PM-8:30 PM)

September

- 14 Home Football - Pisgah
- 10 Band Parents Meeting 6:30 PM
- 13 Home Football - Enka (Homecoming)
- 14 Band Day
- 17 Band Exhibition Night
- 20 Away Football North Henderson
- 27 Rehearsal in Stadium. 4:30 PM - 8:30 PM
- 28 Enka Contest

October

- 4 Home Football - Reynolds (WMS Night)
- 5 Contest Possible TBA
- 8 Band Parents Meeting 6:30 PM
- 11 Away Football Asheville
- 12 Contest Possible TBA
- 18 Home Football - North Buncombe
- 19 WCU Contest
- 25 Away Football West Henderson
- 26 Contest Possible TBA
- 31 Last Rehearsal. 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM/ Trunk or Treat

November

- 4 Band Parents Meeting 6:30 PM
- 8 Home Football - TC Roberson (Senior Night)
- 14-18 Disney World!!

December

- 5 Canton Christmas Parade
- 7 Fruit/Fudge Pick-up

9 Waynesville Christmas Parade

Regular Rehearsal Schedule:

- *Monday 4 PM - 6 PM*
- *Tuesday 4 PM - 6:30 PM*
- *Thursday 4 PM - 6:30 PM*

Band Booster Leaders

Executives

President Kenneth Aldridge 828-558-1168
kenneth.aldridge@yahoo.com

Vice President Robin Smith Torres 828-450-8094
rsmithtorres00@gmail.com

Secretary Christy Yazan 828-606-6319
christy.yazan@gmail.com

Treasurer Cathy Berlin
cackyb@gmail.com

Chairpersons

Alumni	Jimmy Crocker
Band Day	Mitch Huskinson
Banner Sales	Ken Aldridge
By-laws	Tim Wise
Car Wash	Kim Parilla
Chaperones	Jessica Perry
Citrus Sales	Melissa Aldridge
Concessions - All District & Summer Street Dance	Heather Myers
Concessions - JV Football	
Guard Chaperone	Jessica Perry
Parking	
Props/Pit Crew	Jimmy Crocker & Jeremy Myers
Publicity	Beth Plisko/Angie Schwab
Receptions	Angie Schwab
Sewing	Kim Parilla
Spirit Sales	Stephanie Parker
Student Meals	Tammy Mills
Transportation	Mayo Ferguson & Adam Perry
Uniforms	tbd

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How much does it cost to be a member of the Tuscola Marching Band?

A: Fees will fluctuate from year to year depending on any trips the band plans on taking. Fees are kept to a minimum to ensure everyone can participate.

Q: What do the band fees and raised funds go toward?

A: Band fees are specifically used to care for the student's uniform, as well as cover any travel expenses. Funds raised by the band is used for items such as instrument repair and replacement, bus and driver fees, band camp staff, prop expenses and food expenses.

Q: How do I pay my band fees and add funds to my student's account?

A: There are a number of fundraisers to help offset costs, such as citrus sales, car washes, and banner sales. To deposit funds directly to your student's account, inside the band office, behind the door, you will find a yellow deposit box with blank white envelopes available. Be sure to write your student's name and what the deposit is to used for (ie, "band fees") on the envelope, Insert your check made payable to the Tuscola Marching Band in the envelope and drop into the slot on top of the deposit box.

Q: Where does the band practice?

A: The band practices in the lower section of the parking lot at Tuscola High School. Before home football games, the band will rehearse at CE Weatherby Stadium.

Q: How do I contact Mr. Wise?

A: The best way to reach Mr. Wise is via email at thsband@mac.com or at 828-456-3783.

Q: What does my student need to have with them on competition days?

A: It's essential that your student bring everything with them to the school before departure to a competition. Mr. Wise will distribute a list each week of needed items, but these are always essential:

1. Instrument or flag
2. Band show shirt
3. Black socks

There is not an opportunity to retrieve these items once we have left Tuscola or reached a competition location.

Q: Can I take my student with me after a contest?

A: Students may be picked up after a band contest, after they have been dismissed by Mr. Wise. A note stating that you are taking the student must be delivered to Mr. Wise before the student can be released into your care. This only applies to regular band competitions and not the annual trip. The student is required to adhere to the full schedule laid out for the trip beforehand and will not be excused from any of the activities.

Q: Can I travel with the band?

A: Typically, only band personnel and volunteer chaperones are allowed to travel on the buses with the band. You are highly encouraged to follow the activity buses and semi-truck to our contest locations. During certain annual trips the band may use charter buses, and you may be allowed to ride along on these trips for a cost.

Q: How are bands put into classes at the competitions?

A: In North Carolina, bands are typically classified according to the number of total musicians (horns and percussion).

Q: What are judges looking for during a competition performance?

A: The band is scored on both their visual performance and music performance. Scoring for percussion, auxiliary (color guard) and drum major are factored into these categories.