



**Pride Of The West**  
West Forsyth High School Bands

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***West Forsyth Band Boosters, Inc.***  
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## ***Welcome to the West Forsyth High School Band Program!***

What is a band? What makes band different from other courses in the school curriculum? What are the benefits of the band to the student and the student body? Why music?

First, a band is a group of individual instrumentalists working together toward a common goal. That goal is to perform in such a way that is esthetically pleasing to both performer and audience member, is true to the intensions and inspirations of the composer, and at the same time, advances the skill of the individual player. Band differs from other courses in the curriculum in that it requires more time, energy and commitment than almost any other subject or activity. A student who joins the band must be prepared not only to attend regularly scheduled rehearsals, but also extra rehearsals, sectionals, and put in a large amount of individual practice away from school. For a band to reach its potential, each player must be completely dedicated to the organization, to its ideals and standards, and to its members.

In spite of the great demands placed on the student, the benefits gained from band justify the cost. Band is the only course that reaches all aspects of the student's mind including the intellectual, the physical, the psychological, the spiritual, the emotional, and the social. Band has the potential to expose the student to the arts, which is one of the only lasting aspects of our culture. In band the student learns an appreciation of music through performance, repertoire, interpretation, and trained listening. Band teaches discipline of mind and behavior. Playing an instrument combines coordination of mind and body to a greater degree than any other single activity. Through the band experience, the student learns techniques of artistic discrimination, judgment, insight and problem solving. As well as teaching the benefits of hard work, band can also be a form of recreation and a much-needed creative outlet.

Participating in band gives a student a sense of belonging and an opportunity to be a part of something that is bigger than him self and better than any of the individual parts. It places students in a position of responsibility and offers an opportunity to achieve. Through band a student can raise his self-concept and develop confidence by knowing that he is an important part of the sum total.

Because of the variety of people who join the band, it becomes the embodiment of all society. All variations of human nature and behavior can be found in the members of a band program. Through contact with these different individuals, a student enriches his own personality and learns to work and live successfully in cooperation with others. The band offers opportunities to develop leadership skill and is a means to help students become responsible adults. It offers students a sense of purpose, values, and discipline.

The band serves to represent the school and community. The community sees the band more than any other program or school organization. Because of football games, parades, and concerts it is continually in the public eye and acts as the chief booster of school spirit. In many ways, the band acts as a showcase for the school's achievements and successes.

The directors and instructors of the WFHS Band Program are committed to providing you with as many musical opportunities as possible. We feel that this is your band and these experiences are at your disposal. YOU must make the decision to claim them. YOU must commit to that decision of being a band member with dedication, practice, and hard work. Your involvement in the band program provides you with an opportunity to instill in all people an awareness of music's important role in the enrichment of the human spirit. Being involved in a band program is an activity in which you can participate for your entire life. The benefits available to you through music and its countless variations are limitless. It offers opportunities and rewards that no other disciplines can provide.

Sincerely,

Keith Matthews

WFHS Bands

## **OUR GOALS FOR 2009-2010**

1. As representatives of West Forsyth High School, we must strive to entertain audiences and affect them with our energy, enthusiasm and intensity. We must always show our community that we enjoy performing for them and that we are glad to perform to the best of our ability. The band program supports West Forsyth High School by its quality of performance, highest standards, and high level of school spirit.
2. Each member of the band should commit himself to doing the very best in every practice and performance. Doing anything halfway is not worth the effort. Every member should strive to give 100% during every facet of a band function. Remember that you only perform as well as you practice. Organizations are only as strong as their weakest member.
3. By learning your part and performing it to the best of your ability, we can raise the level of comprehensive musicianship throughout the band. Every member has an individual responsibility to do his personal best when working toward a group effort. By achieving this goal, the level of musicianship rises in the band; we as individuals and as a band become better.
4. The most important aspect of the school band program is the attitude by which it is surrounded. Attitude is the single largest contributing factor in the success and reputation of a band program. The character of the band not only involves the students and directors, but the community as well. We must cultivate a balance of enthusiasm, confidence, and discipline to build a winning and positive attitude.
5. The successful band program requires parental involvement and community support. In many ways we are a family of families. We must strive to involve as many parents and community members as possible in the West Forsyth High School Band Booster organization. As participants in the performing arts, we have a responsibility to educate the community on the benefits of a successful band program by providing community service and participation. Each family is strongly encouraged to be actively involved in the band fund raising events and the promotion of the program. We need each and every family to do their part to achieve our goals.

**These are realistic and attainable goals. It will take the efforts of every member and parent, along with dedication, hard work, a love of music, and high standards of excellence to be successful. When these goals have been reached, the West Forsyth High School Band will rise to a higher level of performance and will continue to establish itself as a program worthy of recognition, praise and commendation.**

# **WEST FORSYTH HIGH SCHOOL BANDS**

The West Forsyth High School Band Program is currently comprised of four separate band levels. The class to which you are assigned is based upon your individual performance level, instrumentation needs and the director's recommendation. Each band needs the absolute involvement and dedication from each of its members. Because continuity is an integral part of a program for both the student and the band, a student will not be allowed to re-enroll in the band after dropping out. Exceptions will be made only in cases of illness or at the director's discretion.

## ***BAND CURRICULM***

### **Wind Ensemble (Advanced Band III)**

Prerequisite: Audition with Band Director

Course Description:

6. The Wind Ensemble provides opportunities for instrumental musicians to increase performance skills and precision on a wind or percussion instrument at the highest level. The course covers performance & production, analysis, historical and cultural contributions and influences of music. It stresses self-paced progress, practice strategies and group experiences. Music is at the medium to advanced levels (GMEA grades IV, V, VI).

Course Objectives:

7. Exhibit a thorough knowledge of performance practices by showing advanced skills in tone production, intonation, balance and blend, articulation, technique, interpretation, scales and scale patterns, and ensemble awareness.
8. Correctly perform challenging music representing major compositional style periods and quality composers.
9. Proficiency in sight-reading medium and advanced materials through continued practice.
10. Exhibit a thorough knowledge of musical construction, including musical terms, key signatures, interval construction, types of scales, musical style periods and composers, compositional techniques.

Rehearsals and performances:

- Full band rehearsals, sectional rehearsals, concerts, and festivals beyond the school day are considered an extension of the classroom and a part of the Wind Ensemble commitment. Any after school rehearsals will be scheduled at least two weeks prior to the set date.

## Symphonic Band (Advanced Band II)

Prerequisite: Audition with Band Director

Course Description:

11. The Symphonic Band provides opportunities for instrumental musicians to increase performance skills and precision on a wind or percussion instrument. The course covers performance & production, analysis, historical and cultural contributions and influences of music. It stresses self-paced progress, practice strategies and group experiences. Music is at the medium level (GMEA grades III, IV, V).

Course Objectives:

12. Exhibit a thorough knowledge of performance practices by showing continuing improvement in tone production, intonation, balance and blend, articulation, technique, interpretation, scales and scale patterns, and ensemble awareness.
13. Correctly perform challenging music representing major compositional style periods and quality composers.
14. Proficiency in sight-reading medium and advanced materials through continued practice.
15. Exhibit a thorough knowledge of musical construction, including musical terms, key signatures, interval construction, types of scales, musical style periods and composers, compositional techniques.
16. Prepare for promotion to the Wind Ensemble (Advanced Band III)

Rehearsals and performances:

Full band rehearsals, sectional rehearsals, concerts, and festivals are considered an extension of the classroom and a part of the Symphonic Band commitment. Any after school rehearsals will be scheduled at least two weeks prior to the set date.

## Concert Band (Beginning Band I, II)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 8<sup>th</sup> grade band.

### Course Description:

17. The Concert Band provides opportunities for instrumental musicians to increase performance skills and precision on a wind or percussion instrument. The course covers performance & production, analysis, historical and cultural contributions and influences of music. It stresses self-paced progress, practice strategies and group experiences. Music is at the intermediate to medium levels (GMEA grades II, III, IV).

### Course Objectives:

18. Exhibit a functional knowledge of performance practices through continued improvement in tone production, intonation, balance and blend, articulation, technique, interpretation, scales and scale patterns, and ensemble awareness.
19. Correctly perform challenging music representing major compositional style periods and quality composers.
20. Proficiency in sight-reading intermediate and medium level materials through continued practice.
21. Exhibit a thorough knowledge of musical construction, including musical terms, key signatures, interval construction, types of scales, musical style periods and composers, compositional techniques.
22. Prepare for promotion to Symphonic Band (Advanced Band II) and/or Wind Ensemble (Advanced Band III).

### Rehearsals and performances:

- Full band rehearsals, sectional rehearsals, concerts, and festivals are considered an extension of the classroom and a part of the Concert Band commitment. Any after school rehearsals will be scheduled at least two weeks prior to the set date.

## Percussion Class (I, II, III, IV)

Prerequisite: Audition with Band Director

Course Description:

23. The Percussion class provides opportunity to develop percussion skills in many genres of music. The class will be divided into ensembles and assigned a performing band group based on audition.

Course Objectives:

24. Exhibit a functional knowledge of performance practices by showing continuing improvement in tone production, balance and blend, articulation, technique, interpretation, scales and scale patterns, rhythm, timing, and ensemble awareness.
25. Develop functional skills in all areas of percussion including rudiments, mallets, timpani and accessory instruments.
26. Correctly perform challenging music representing major compositional style periods and quality composers.
27. Proficiency in sight-reading intermediate and medium level materials through continued practice.
28. Exhibit a thorough knowledge of musical construction, including musical terms, key signatures, interval construction, types of scales, musical style periods and composers, compositional techniques.

Rehearsals and performances:

- ❑ Full band rehearsals, sectional rehearsals, concerts, and festivals are considered an extension of the classroom and a part of the Percussion Class commitment. Any after school rehearsals will be scheduled at least two weeks prior to the set date.

## Colorguard (Dance Composition I, II, III, IV)

Prerequisite: Spring and Winter Audition

Course Description:

29. The Dance Composition class introduces dance composition and covers identification and execution of the basic principles of composition (i.e. design, improvisation, use of musical forms). It concentrates on the development of themes and performance of multiple phrase composition. This is a performance class which emphasizes individual creativity, movement, staging, and the use of props and equipment in performance.

Rehearsals and performances:

- Marching Band, Colorguard and Winterguard rehearsals, sectional rehearsals, festivals and contests are considered an extension of the classroom and a part of the class commitment. Any additional after-school rehearsals will be scheduled at least two weeks prior to the set date.

# ***The Band Rules!!!***

## **The LAW...**

30. All school policies of conduct and behavior apply to all band functions. The penalties resulting from the abuse of the regulations will be consistent with school board policies.
31. Tobacco, alcohol, and nonprescription drugs are clearly prohibited under school and state law. Penalties include immediate suspension and possible expulsion from school and/or band.

## **ACTIONS speak louder than words...**

32. The use of obscene language or gestures will be considered unbecoming of a West Forsyth High School Band member.
33. Public displays of affection will not be allowed in the band room, at any band functions, or anywhere near Mr. Matthews. This is not an image we wish to project and the problems will be addressed immediately.
34. General disrespect to the director, other members of the faculty, chaperones, band staff, or substitutes will not be tolerated.

## **The ROOM...**

35. Food, drinks, and gum are not allowed in the band facilities at any time. There will be no gum allowed at band functions. The band room will be kept clean and free from trash at all times. This is our home away from home and we must work to keep it clean.
36. Only students who are in the band are allowed in the band room. Please do not bring your friends into the band room to visit. Students wishing to be in the band room during free time must have the approval of the director. The strict rules of personnel in the band room are to protect school and individual property.
37. The band facilities are to be cleaned and straightened after every rehearsal and performance. It is the responsibility of each band member for seeing that the band room is kept neat and orderly.
38. Students must obtain permission from Mr. Matthews to use items in the band room such as the stereo, white boards, computers, etc.
39. The telephone in the band room and Mr. Matthews' office is to be used for school or band business only. You must get permission to use the phones.

40. Storage rooms are for storage and individual/small ensemble practice only. They are not lounges.
41. Only authorized personnel are allowed in the band offices, music library and uniform room.
42. The director's door is always open and students are welcome to come into the office to discuss music, instruments, class, etc. However, the director's office is also not a lounge and there will be no students in the office unless the director is present.
43. Because of the large number of visitors and guests, the general appearance of the band room, the instrument storage areas, practice rooms, library, and uniform storage area must be kept neat at all times. Books and personal belongings are not to be left in any of these areas because of the disorganized look. The band rooms are not to be used as a personal storage facility.

### **Your STUFF...**

44. All students must have the necessary materials to perform correctly and successfully each day. Each member is required to keep up with all assigned music and materials. It is your responsibility to make sure that the music is not lost or damaged.
45. Cell phones are permitted, but they must be turned off and hidden during school hours and all band activities. Cell phones may only be used to call a parent in an emergency or a late arrival from an activity.
46. Students are not allowed to handle an instrument other than their own or the instrument assigned to them. Many instruments are delicate and can be damaged easily. If it not yours, don't touch it! Do not borrow any instrument that does not belong or is assigned to you, even if you think it is okay with the owner.
47. Instrument lockers and storage rooms are to be used for band instruments and accessories only. Do not use personal locks on the instrument lockers. The band & storage rooms will be locked when Mr. Matthews is not present.
48. Take your instrument and accessories home every day after school (PRACTICE!). Every precaution will be made to safeguard all stored equipment; however, WFHS and the WFHS Band will not be responsible for personal instruments left in the storage room, especially after school hours.
49. Report instrument or equipment malfunctions to Mr. Matthews before taking it to a repair shop. Request a "loaner" instrument from a repair shop. If one is not available, you must submit a copy of the repair receipt in order to get full participation credit.

**Plan AHEAD... “It wasn't raining when Noah built the ark.”**

50. All students must enter through the front of the school or bus lot entrance before school begins. Students will not be allowed to enter through the rear doors before school... even with band equipment. **Do not prop open locked doors with outside access.**
51. The band room will be open each morning at approximately 7:45am. Students may drop off instruments in their band locker before school begins.
52. Students are welcome to use the band room before and after school for practice and other music related projects when Mr. Matthews is present.
53. Class begins when the tardy bell rings. Please be in your seat with your instrument, music, and supplies.
54. Items not used during rehearsals (i.e. cases, book bags, homework) should be placed in the instrument storage rooms out of the way and removed when class is dismissed.
55. Please ask permission to play your instrument individually. The band will warm-up together unless told otherwise.
56. While in the classroom, all talking will cease when the director indicates the start of rehearsal.

**And LAST...**

57. The above statements can and will be amended through the duration of the school year.
58. Take “PRIDE” in this organization and in this school. Any individual action or behavior considered unbecoming of a WFHS Band Member can and will reflect poorly on the entire Band.

**PROCEDURE...**

- Verbal reprimand
  - Call parents
  - Call parents again (and maybe grandparents)
  - Administrative detention, referral, etc.
5. Permanent dismissal from Band Program

# GRADING POLICY

Student grades will be determined by the following formula:

## 40% Formative

- Class preparation/participation (determined by practice habits, equipment for class, ensemble discipline, etc.)
- Assigned pass-off material
- Playing tests (not including chair placement tests)
- After-school rehearsal attendance
- Written assignments

## 60% Summative

- 59. Chair Tests
- 60. Development units (3 per semester, 6 total)
- 61. Concerts
- 62. Special Projects
- 63. Final Exam

Each grading period will consist of pass-off assignments on music material, written material, performance concepts, special projects, and daily grades for preparation and participation.

Grades will be taken daily for class preparation/participation. All music and instruments are required on a daily basis for class preparation/participation. Points will be deducted from the class preparation/participation grade for students not prepared with their instrument, music, pencil, reeds, or any other equipment needed for class. Ensemble discipline is the prime factor in the determination of the class preparation/participation grade. If your instrument is being repaired, a note or receipt from the music store/repair shop must be provided.

Assigned pass-off material will be given on a regular basis. These will be performed during class time. Pass-offs may be made up by appointment before or after school and must be completed **within two weeks** of assigned date. Refusal to play a pass-off during class time will result in a "0" and cannot be made up.

Rehearsals and performances outside of school hours are considered an extension of the classroom and will be graded accordingly. Rehearsals before and after school will occur in preparation for each concert, and attendance is required. All school related conflicts must be communicated to both parties in advance of the rehearsal or concert.

Development Units are obtained by participation in community music activities outside of the WFHS band. A minimum of three and a maximum of five development units must be earned each semester to receive full credit. Examples of development units are as follows: performance in a community or church music organization, professional band or orchestra concert attendance, local school concert attendance, successful All-State audition, etc. All development units must be approved by the director. Proof of concert attendance must be provided with a ticket stub or program.

**Students in each class will be graded on an individual basis, equally and fairly regardless of their involvement in extra-curricular activities.**

# **Extra-Curricular Band Activities**

## **Marching Band**

Membership in the marching band requires physical exercise and the ability to play the literature encountered in the activity. All students enrolled in the band program are encouraged to march; there is a greater opportunity to improve on your instrument due to the amount of additional instruction and number of performances. The marching band performs in the fall and there is a participation fee. All students in the marching band must be enrolled in a band class at WFHS.

## **Colorguard**

Students who are interested in dance and choreography may choose to audition for the Colorguard which performs with the Marching Band and the Winterguard. The colorguard is an important visual element to the marching band and will involve everything from dancing to flag work. Auditions for Colorguard are held in the spring and there is a participation fee. Auditions for Winterguard are held late fall semester and there is an additional participation fee.

## **Jazz Band**

Students may elect to audition for jazz band. The jazz band plays for community events and performs throughout the spring. Jazz band is held second semester and auditions will be held late fall semester.

## **Basketball Pep-Band**

The Pep-Band will perform at several home basketball games throughout the season. The pep-band consists of interested members of the marching band. The game dates will be selected at the beginning of the basketball season, and students must commit to each in order to participate.

## **Other Chamber Ensembles**

Band members are encouraged to perform in chamber ensembles. Possible groups are Woodwind Quintet, Brass Quintet, Saxophone Quartet, Low Brass Ensemble, Flute Choir, Clarinet Choir, Percussion Ensemble, as well as additional small groups. Performance opportunities will be provided.

## **Student Leaders and the Leadership Workshop**

The leadership workshop prepares students to become effective leaders within the band program and beyond. Students may participate in the WFHS Leadership Workshop in the spring. This workshop is required of all students who wish to be considered for a position on the leadership team including drum major. An audition and interview process is held at the end of the workshop.

## **Summer Instruction**

There are summer institutes for music instruction. Some of the nationally known programs are Brevard Music Center, Interlochen Arts Camp, Aspen Summer Music Program, and Tanglewood. There are also regional summer music camps at many universities.

## **Private Lessons**

Private lessons on a musical instrument are the best way to improve performance skills. The one-on-one approach allows the student to benefit from the individual attention from a professional player of their instrument. Yearly surveys of students in the All-State Band revealed that approximately 90% of the students in the band studied privately. Students are generally more inclined to practice diligently for a weekly music assignment and this discipline increases the student's enjoyment with their instrument. Mr. Matthews can assist in the selection of a private teacher.

## **All-State and District Honor Band**

Members of the band program are eligible to audition for the All-State and District Honor Bands. Regional auditions are held in December with "finals" auditions in January. The District Honor Band Clinic is held locally and the All-State Band Clinic is held in Savannah, GA.

# AWARDS

Band awards will be given each spring at the end of the school year. To be eligible to receive an award, the Band member must meet the criteria for a particular award and must be in good standing with the WFHS Band Boosters. Band awards are, but not limited to, the following:

- ~*Director's Award* - Outstanding Band Member of the year.
- ~*John Phillip Sousa* - Outstanding Senior Musician.
- ~*Rookie of the year* - Outstanding Freshman Musician.
- ~*All-State Award* - For Students who made All State Band.
- ~*Most Improved* - One from each performing organization and/or instrument family..
- ~*Most Outstanding* - One from each performing organization and/or instrument family.
- ~*Senior Awards* - All criteria for “lettering” must be met.
- ~*Band Letters and Service Bars* - All criteria for “lettering” must be met.
- ~*Band Officer, Janfest, District Honor Band, GHP, and other award recognitions*

In order for a student to earn a Band letter, the student must meet the following requirements:

1. Participate in the Marching Band for 2 years or participate in Colorguard and Winterguard one full year.
2. Have no unexcused absences to rehearsals and performances.
3. Return or replace all music, equipment, instruments, etc. in superior condition.
4. Have no outstanding financial obligations to the Band or Band Boosters.
5. All members must pass-off the marching music and/or routines before the first festival/contest performance.

## Financial Obligations

Each band student is assessed a dollar amount determined by the budgeted needs of the band for that year versus the number of band and colorguard members. Each student may earn credit towards this assessment by participating in various fundraising activities held throughout the year. If the student does not earn enough to meet his/her fundraising obligation during the fundraising activities, he/she is responsible to pay or continue fundraising for the remaining balance. The WFHS Band is a non-profit organization and only raises/collects money for band expenses. The more funds available for instruction and equipment, the better the opportunity for success.

It is essential that you fundraise as much as possible. This will lower the amount of “out-of-pocket” expenses for you and your family. It also allows the band boosters to keep yearly dues down to a reasonable amount. Please communicate to the director and/or Band Booster representative any financial hardships that may jeopardize your participation in WFHS Band activities and functions.

Marching Band Obligation:	\$575 /yr.
Concert Band Obligation (non-marchers):	\$50 /yr.
School owned instrument fee:	\$35 /yr. (included in marching band dues)
Winterguard:	TBA (determined by # of members)

*\*Please make checks payable to **West Forsyth Band Boosters, Inc.** Payments may be made to the booster mailbox outside the band room or sent to:*

*WFHS Band Boosters  
P.O. Box 2237  
Cumming, GA 30028*

# ***WFHS MARCHING BAND ATTENDANCE POLICY***

Attendance at all band functions is very important for the overall growth of the program. Students absent during rehearsal pose problems for the band during drill and ensemble rehearsal. Students absent from football and contest performances hurt the group immensely, as they make large holes in the drill, and the part that they play is musically decreased.

Attendance at band camp is necessary for every student. The schedule is created so that every minute of rehearsal is utilized to the fullest extent. Any student missing a camp rehearsal will be behind in the marching band preparation and cause the pace of rehearsal to slow down. It is essential that all vacations, doctor's appointments, and any other conflicts are scheduled around the band camp times. Students moving into the area will be allowed to join the band after the beginning of the school year at the directors' discretion.

All members of the marching band must attend each rehearsal to be considered eligible for performances. Any absence from rehearsals, excused or unexcused, will jeopardize the student's status in that week's marching show. An unexcused absence will jeopardize a student's qualification for a varsity letter in band. Should a student be involved in another school activity that conflicts with rehearsal/performance times, an arrangement will be made between the director and the advisor/coach. An **unexcused absence** from a halftime performance, contest, festival or any other required performance will jeopardize the student's membership in the ensemble. Students will not be dismissed after halftime without prior permission from the director. In the event that a member belongs to another organization (non-school affiliated) that has scheduled another event at the same time as a WFHS Band function, the school band shall always take precedence. **Communication between the director and the students will usually resolve any conflicts.** The director will review notification (in written form by parent or guardian) of conflicting events and will accept or reject the absence request. This is standard procedure for most all bands, amateur and professional.

One of the essential skills learned in the marching band is time-management. Due to the amount of time required for marching band, students must be especially diligent in completing schoolwork and maintaining satisfactory grades. However, **absence from band functions for completing homework or for punishment is detrimental to the entire band and not just the individual.** If you are having trouble in any class, please communicate with the director so help can be provided. The WFHS Marching Band will follow all GHSA eligibility guidelines ("no pass, no play").

Examples of absences:

## **Excused absences:**

Serious Personal Illness (fever, stomach)  
Religious Holidays  
Close family wedding  
Close family funeral

## **Unexcused absences:**

Doctor/dentist appointments  
Work scheduling conflict  
Completing Homework  
Club meetings (no prior approval)  
Head cold or "not feeling well"  
Any other absence

# WFHS Instrument Equipment List

## Woodwinds:

### **Reeds**

- Clarinet: Vandoren (blue box) 2.5-3.5
- Bass Clarinet: Vandoren (blue box) 2.5-3
- Alto Saxophone: Vandoren (blue box) 2.5-3.5
- Tenor Saxophone: Vandoren (blue box) 2.5-3.5
- Bari Saxophone: Vandoren (blue box) 2.5-3.5

### **Ligatures (for all woodwinds)**

- Rovner 1R Dark
- Rovner C-1R Mark III

### **Mouthpieces**

- 64. Clarinet (including bass)
  - minimum step-up is the Yamaha 4C
  - next step is Vandoren 2RV, 5RV, AT45, and M13
- 65. All Saxophones
  - minimum step-up is Yamaha 4C
  - next step is Selmer C-star\*
- 66. Jazz Saxophones
  - Peter Ponzol mouthpiece, M2 facing
  - \*\*\*PLEASE see Mr. Matthews before purchasing!!!

### **Swabs (for flute, clarinet, oboe, bassoon, and alto)**

- 67. Any silk swab will do
- 68. Please do not purchase the “pad saver” fuzzy swabs that you insert and leave inside your horn. They actually retain the moisture inside the instrument and deposit lint onto the pads.

\*Note: These are basic recommendations beyond what is provided with “beginner” model instruments. Private teachers may have additional recommendations that are suitable if not better.

# WFHS Instrument Equipment List

## Brass:

### **Mouthpieces**

- Trumpets: 3C, 1 ½ C
- Trombone/Euphonium: 6 ½ AL
- French Horn: Holton Farkas; MDC
- Tuba: Conn Helleberg

### **Mutes**

- Tom Crown Straight Mutes with copper bottoms (only metal)

### **Valve Oil**

- Any type is fine—just make sure that you consistently use the same type. Avoid brands that have excessive odor.

### **Slide Cream**

- Trombotine or Super Slick with water spray bottle.
- Use regular slide grease for all tuning slides.

\*Note: These are basic recommendations beyond what is provided with “beginner” model instruments. Private teachers may have additional recommendations that are suitable if not better.

## All Musicians:

### **Metronome**

- Digital is preferable
- Must have sound and light that indicates tempo
- Must have subdivision of beats

### **Tuner**

- Digital or needle indicator is fine
- There are several “two in one” units (Metronome & Tuner)

# WFHS Percussion Equipment List

Students enrolled in Percussion Methods need to have a stick bag with the items listed in the beginner bag. As students progress, additional implements should be added to their gear bag. WFHS and the Band Boosters do not provide this equipment. Below is a list of suggested mallets and sticks. Please email Mr. Matthews if you have any questions. Make sure your name is on all personal items. Materials will be checked daily beginning August 31, 2009.

## VIC FIRTH Brand

	<b>Beginner Bag</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Advanced</b>
<b>Concert Snare Sticks</b>	SD1 General	SD1 General	SD1 General SD 2 Bolero
<b>Marching Sticks</b>		Ralph Hardimon SRH or any Corpsmaster Marching Snare Model	Ralph Hardimon SRH or any Corpsmaster Marching Snare Model
<b>Timpani Mallets</b>	T1 General	T1 General T3 Staccato	T1 General T2 Cartwheel T3 Staccato
<b>Yarn Marimba</b>	1 Pair: M3 or M2 (med)	2 Pair: M3 or M2 2 Pair: M1 (hard)	2 Pair: M3 or M2 2 Pair: M1 (hard) 2 Pair: M4 (soft)
<b>Bell\Xylo</b>	1 Pair: M6 (hard phenolic)	M6 (hard phenolic) M132 (med rubber)	M6 (hard phenolic) M132 (med rubber) M11 (Brass)
<b>Vibe Mallets</b>		M32 (med hard cord)	M32 (med hard cord) M31 (soft cord) M33 (hard cord)
		<i>Note:</i> This is the basic line of timpani and keyboard mallets. Students may elect to upgrade to a signature series.	

## INNOVATIVE PERCUSSION Brand

	<b>Beginner Bag</b>	<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Advanced</b>
<b>Concert Snare Sticks</b>	IP-1 General	IP-1 General	IP-1 General CL-3L
<b>Marching Sticks</b>		FS-PR, FS-BK or any Field Series Marching Sticks	FS-PR, FS-BK or any Field Series Marching Sticks
<b>Timpani Mallets</b>	CT-4 General	CT-3 Med. General CT-5 Staccato	CT-4 Med. General CT-5 Staccato CT-1 Soft Legato
<b>Yarn Marimba</b>	1 Pair: F1.5 (med)	2 Pair: F1.5 (med) 2 Pair: F2 (hard)	2 Pair: F1.5 (med) 2 Pair: F2 (hard) 2 Pair: F1 (soft)
<b>Bell\Xylo</b>	1 Pair F10 (hard phenolic)	F10 (hard phenolic) F8 (med rubber)	F10 (hard phenolic) F8 (med rubber) F11 (Brass)
<b>Vibe Mallets</b>		F5.5 (med hard cord)	F3.5 (med hard cord) F3 (soft cord) F4 (hard cord)
		<i>Note:</i> This is the basic line of timpani and keyboard mallets. Students may elect to upgrade to a signature series.	

**WEST FORSYTH HIGH SCHOOL BAND  
PARENT, STUDENT, TEACHER AGREEMENT  
2009-2010**

We, as student and parent, understand the policies set forth in the West Forsyth High School Band Handbook and as members agree to abide in every way. We also understand that the director will amend the handbook as needed. The current handbook and updated information can be found at [www.wfhsband.com](http://www.wfhsband.com).

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Instrument

\_\_\_\_\_  
Instrument SN (personal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**West Forsyth High School Band/Color Guard  
Activity Transportation Waiver**

I give my son/daughter,

\_\_\_\_\_,  
permission to ride with an adult (band parent) chaperone to/from an activity of West Forsyth High School during the 2009-2010 school year for events specified by the director.

I further understand that I am releasing the school and its staff from responsibility for any accident that might occur. I also give permission for medical treatment should it be required.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## Pride Of The West West Forsyth High School Bands

4155 Drew Road  
Cumming, GA 30040  
(770) 888-3470

Dear WF Band Students and Families,

You have made a great decision to continue your band and music career here at West Forsyth High School. I hope you will find this activity to be a rewarding experience for everyone involved.

By now you have read the 2009-10 WFHS Band Handbook found at [www.wfhsband.com](http://www.wfhsband.com) and understand some of the costs involved in operating this organization. The Band Booster organization does a fantastic job of supplementing the budget provided by Forsyth County School. I encourage parents to be involved with the Band Boosters.

In order to continue our success this year in the classroom and on the stage, we are asking for a contribution of \$50.00 or more from each member of the band. This will help us cover many expenses that are otherwise not covered by the school. Such expenses include: sheet music, music supplies and accessories, repair costs, and instructional recordings and videos. There are also opportunities for us to hire professional guest musicians to work with the band students.

This payment is a tax deductible contribution. The West Forsyth Band Boosters is a not-for-profit organization. A receipt may be provided upon request. Please return this letter with payment by Friday, August 21, 2009. Please make checks payable to **West Forsyth Band Boosters, Inc.** Payment may be made in the "black box" in the band room or mailed to:

WFBB  
P.O. Box 2237  
Cumming, GA 30028

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mr. Matthews by email or phone. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Keith Matthews  
Band Director  
770-888-3470 x331519  
[kmatthews@forsyth.k12.ga.us](mailto:kmatthews@forsyth.k12.ga.us)