

**WESTERN DUBUQUE
HIGH SCHOOL
BOBCAT COLOR GUARD HANDBOOK**



2017-2018

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DIRECTOR**

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COACH**

Philosophy of the Color Guard

The Color Guard at Western Dubuque High School is designed to teach students how to become a better performer and a better person. Students not only learn flag skills, they learn life skills. All learning is designed to improve students as a whole being.

The color guard meets as its own class. The team is selected by audition. They meet during the first trimester and attend several additional practices outside of class. They prepare for marching performances and the state flag competition in December.

Calendar

The performance calendars will be handed out to students as far in advance as possible. Students are expected to check all dates and put them on their own calendar. Any conflicts are to be reported as far in advance as possible. A conflict that is "discovered" at the last minute can cause great tension in the color guard and even cause an event to be canceled. Students are expected to be extremely responsible in their planning abilities.

Western Dubuque High School Color Guard 2017-2018 Performance Calendar Final

Date	Day	Time	Event	Location
June 19-22	Monday-Thursday	All Day	Drum Major and Color Guard Captain camp	Pella, IA
June 27	Tuesday	5:00-6:00 p.m. 6:30-8:00 p.m. 8:00-8:30 p.m.	Color Guard rehearsal Summer band rehearsal Leadership meeting	WDHS
July 2	Sunday	12:00-2:00 p.m.	Color Guard and Summer band rehearsal	WDHS
July 9	Sunday	10:30 a.m.	Parade for band and color guard	Farley
July 10	Monday	All Day	Drum major and color guard leadership clinic	Ankeny
July 24	Monday	5:00-6:30 p.m. 6:30-8:00 p.m. 7:00-8:00 p.m. 8:00-8:30 p.m.	Drum Line rehearsal Color Guard rehearsal Summer Band rehearsal Leadership meeting	
July 26-28	Wed-Fri	9:00-3:00	Color Guard camp	WDHS
July 31	Monday	6:30-8:00 p.m. 8:00-9:00 p.m.	Summer band and color guard rehearsal Leadership meeting	WDHS
August 5	Saturday	10:00-11:00 a.m.	Town and Country Days Parade	Epworth
August 6	Sunday	9:00-4:00	Leadership Day (Leaders only)	WDHS
August 7	Monday	8:00-4:00	Band and Color Guard Camp Freshmen and Leadership report at 8:00. Everyone else report at 10:00.	WDHS
August 7	Monday	7:00-8:00 p.m.	Parents Meeting - very important	WDHS
August 8	Tuesday	9:00-4:00	Band and Color Guard Camp	WDHS
August 8	Tuesday	7:00-9:00 p.m.	Movie night	WDHS

Date	Day	Time	Event	Location
August 9	Wednesday	9:00-4:00	Band and Color Guard Camp	WDHS
August 10	Thursday	9:00-4:00	Band and Color Guard Camp	WDHS
August 10	Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Band Camp Concert	WDHS
August 11	Friday	9:00-3:00	Band and Color Guard Camp	WDHS
August 14	Monday	9:00-4:00 p.m.	Camp for students in Colt Cadets	WDHS
August 19	Saturday	9:00-4:00 p.m.	Drill Day #1- Learn all the drill for the show	WDHS
August 23	Wednesday		1st Day of School	
August 25	Friday	6:15-9:30 p.m.	Home Football Game	WDHS
August 26	Saturday	9:00-4:00 p.m.	Drill Day #2- Learn all the drill for the show	WDHS
August 29	Tuesday	6:30-9:00 p.m.	Rehearsal	WDHS
September 5	Tuesday	6:30-9:00 p.m.	Rehearsal	WDHS
September 12	Tuesday	6:30-9:00 p.m.	Rehearsal	WDHS
September 15	Friday	6:15-9:30 p.m.	Home Football Game	WDHS
September 16	Saturday	Evening	Bobcat Invitational Field Show - All adults and students work	All Day
September 19	Tuesday	6:30-9:00 p.m.	Rehearsal	WDHS
September 23	Saturday	All Day	Linn-Mar and Marion Marching Band Competitions	Marion
September 26	Tuesday	6:30-9:00 p.m.	Rehearsal	WDHS
September 29	Friday	6:15-9:30 p.m.	Home Football Game	WDHS
September 30	Saturday	10:00-9:00	Wingfest - students perform and work	Farley Park
October 2	Monday	7:30-9:00 p.m.	Marching Band Concert	WDHS
October 3	Tuesday	6:30-9:00 p.m.	Rehearsal	WDHS
October 6	Friday	2:00-4:00 p.m.	Homecoming Pep Assembly and Parade	WDHS

Date	Day	Time	Event	Location
October 6	Friday	6:00-9:30 p.m.	Homecoming Game	WDHS
October 7	Saturday	Day	State Marching Band Contest	Waterloo
October 10	Tuesday	6:30-9:00 p.m.	Rehearsal	WDHS
October 14	Saturday	Evening	Clinton Marching Band Contest	Clinton IA
October 20	Friday	6:00-9:30 p.m.	Light Show	WDHS
October ???	???	Daytime	Marching Band Tour of local schools	Local Schools
October 28	Saturday	TBA	Wartburg Football Game	Waverly
November 3	Friday	Evening	State Solo Color Guard Competition ***Optional*** Maximum of 6 members	Newton
November 4	Saturday	All Day	UNI Band Day	Cedar Falls
November 17	Friday		End of 1st Trimester	
TBA	TBA	TBA	Additional rehearsals for state	WDHS
December 1	Friday	Day	State Team Color Guard Will leave the night before	Des Moines
December 10	Sunday	3:00-5:00 p.m.	Holiday Party	WDHS
December 19	Tuesday	6:30-9:30 p.m.	Pep Band Girls Bball	WDHS
May 5	Saturday	7:30-9:00 p.m.	Homecoming Concert Come watch the band movie	WDHS
May 28	Monday	7:30-9:30 a.m.	Memorial Day Parade	Epworth
May 30	Tuesday		End of 3rd Trimester	

Please check these dates and make sure you clear them on your calendar. Our team's success depends on full participation. All students are expected to attend all performances. If an unavoidable conflict arises, please let the director know as soon as possible so proper preparations can be made for the band to cover the missing member. If any items are added to the calendar, a new one may be issued.

Grading

Grades are based on the following categories:

Performances – The success of a Color Guard is completely dependent upon the full participation of the students. Students are always expected to attend all performances. Unlike sports teams, the flag team does not have a “bench”. Everyone participates in flags so there are no substitutes to call upon when someone is missing. When a student misses a performance, she not only lets himself down, she lets down the entire team.

In reality, there is no way to make up a missed performance because it only happens once. However, points can be made up. Students who are excused from a performance must schedule a performance test with the band director within two days of their return to receive full credit. An excused absence usually involves a medical problem or a death in the family. Performances are graded with two components: a performance component and a participation component. Make up work only goes towards the performance component. The participation points can not be made up. Of course a student with an unexcused absence is not eligible to make up any points. Students who repeatedly miss performances will be asked to leave the program.

Participation – Daily participation in rehearsal and the above mentioned performance participation make up the participation component of the grade. Students need to be present, on time and actively participating to receive full credit.

Tests – Tests are given throughout the trimenster. They are usually performance tests but can also be written tests. There will be a final performance test at the end of each semester. Students will receive generous notice before each test so they may have time to prepare.

Paperwork - Forms or exercises that need to be turned in.

Grades will be weighted as follows:

Performances - 45%

Participation - 35%

Tests - 17%

Paperwork - 3%

Being prepared for color guard

Students need to be sure to have everything they need to be prepared for class and performances. All students should have:

- 1. A flag*
- 2. Drill*
- 3. A pencil*
- 4. A cheat sheet*
- 5. Athletic shoes for rehearsal*
- 6. Marching band shoes for performance*
- 7. Marching band uniform for performance*

****Double check this list****

Behavioral Guidelines

Students are expected to abide by the following behavior rules:

General Flag Rules

- 1. No gum!*
- 2. Be respectful towards others.*
- 3. Do not touch property that is not yours to use.*
- 4. Be on time (better yet, be early).*
- 5. Plan ahead – check your calendar weekly*
- 6. No cell phones allowed*

Class Rules

1. No food, drink, or gum in the band room.
2. Be in your seat, ready to go when class starts.
3. Don't talk when someone is addressing the group
4. Pick up after yourself.
5. Give full effort everyday
6. Read the board for announcements .

Travel Rules

1. A school trip includes school rules
2. Causing problems on a trip will result in loss of traveling privileges
3. Represent the team and western dubuque in positive way.

Students who do not abide by these rules will receive the consequences set forth in the Western Dubuque High School Student Handbook. A severe violation and/or repeated violations will result in dismissal from the program.

Uniforms

The flag uniform consists of performance shoes and a uniform. The uniform is paid for by school funds, fundraising money, and contributions by the members.

Follow these guidelines:

- 1. The uniform is either on a hanger or on you.*
- 2. When hanging the uniform, leave it out of the bag, except when transporting, so it can air out.*
- 3. Always wear appropriate undergarments to complement the uniform.*
- 4. Clean as needed.*

Flags and Poles

Students are expected to treat flags and poles with the utmost care and not allow other students to use them. The school provides the cost of care for normal wear and tear on flags and poles. Repairs needed due to student misuse or accident will be paid for by the student and/or parent.

Awards

Various awards are presented throughout the year. Awards are presented to students for a variety of reasons. Some awards are chosen by peers, some are point based, some are for extraordinary achievement. It is important for students to understand that awards are not designed to show who is better than someone else. They are awarded to recognize a particular aspect of a particular student. Some people say that awards should be given to everyone or no one. This suggests that all people are the same, and they are not. We are all individuals and throughout our lives, our individuality gets recognized in various ways. Awards help to do this and should be accepted in good spirit by all.

Flag Letters

There three ways to earn a Flag letter or pin. In all cases, the student must turn in the letter application on time.

Method 1 - A student attends and participates in all required events on the flag calendar and receives A's or B's in color guard for the first trimester.

Method 2 - A student earns A's or B's in flags for the first trimester grading period and they attend optional activities, approved by the band director, that are comparable to any missed required performances.

Method 3 - A students earns A's or B's in flags for the first trimester grading period and completes service hours for flags, approved by the flag director, comparable to any missed required performances, and possibly attends optional activities.

Students may forfeit their letter if they fail to follow proper guidelines explained in this handbook.

Information, Notices and Contacts

Students and parents may consult this handbook and the band web site, www.wdhsband.com, for information. It is also extremely helpful if you can provide your e-mail address for updates and notices. Please be sure to fill out the form in the back of this handbook and return it to the band director.

Parent Support

Our band's success depends on support from parents. Any support you can offer will be very much appreciated. We have monthly band parent meetings, organized by the Western Dubuque Band Parents Organization. All parents are invited to attend. Thank you!

Need help keeping track of the Bobcat Band and Color Guard events and information? Here are ways to help you:

1. Get on our email list. Be sure we have a current email address at the www.charmsoffice.com web site. See directions on next page.
2. Go to www.wdhsband.com. Be sure to check the calendar, blog and any special events pages. If you click on an event on the calendar, it will give you information about where, when and what.
3. Use the direct link to our calendar:
<https://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=uaseffr25b4j17an6o8ngtf67o%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America/Chicago>.
4. Attend our monthly Band Parents Meeting. It is usually the first Monday of each month.
6. Get on our text lists. To join the band list (students and parents), text @mromarz to 81010. To join the parents list, text @wdparents to 81010
7. Listen to the radio, read the paper and watch television. Most of our events are announced on the radio and the paper and sometimes on television. Cancellations because of weather in the winter are on KCRG.
8. Email Mr. Omarzu at michael.omarzu@wdbqschools.org if you have a question.
9. Text or call Mr. Omarzu on his cell if you have a question.
563-580-3160

CONTACT INFORMATION

WE USE CHARMS TO COLLECT ALL CONTACT INFORMATION. PLEASE BE SURE ALL YOUR INFORMATION IS UP TO DATE. FOLLOW THESE DIRECTIONS TO GET INTO CHARMS:

WE ARE USING AN INFORMATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE BAND DEPARTMENT CALLED CHARMS. PLEASE FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS TO INPUT YOUR INFORMATION:

- 1. GO TO THIS WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.CHARMSOFFICE.COM](https://www.charmsoffice.com)**
- 2. CLICK ON THE ENTER/LOGIN BUTTON IN THE UPPER RIGHT CORNER.**
- 3. CHOOSE PARENTS/STUDENTS/MEMBERS**
- 4. TYPE THIS IN FOR YOUR SCHOOL CODE: WESTERNDUBUQUEHSBAND BE SURE TO USE THE CAPS WHERE NEEDED.**
- 5. FOR STUDENT AREA PASSWORD, TYPE IN YOUR SCHOOL ID NUMBER. THIS IS THE NUMBER THAT IS ON ALL YOUR SCHOOL DOCUMENTS, SUCH AS REPORT CARD, PARENT PORTAL, ETC. IF YOUR STUDENT ID DOESN'T WORK, YOU MAY HAVE CHANGED YOUR PASSWORD IN THE PAST.**
- 6. IN THE UPPER LEFT CORNER, YOU SHOULD SEE A HOME BUTTON. IF YOU MOVE YOUR MOUSE OVER THE BUTTON NEXT TO IT, IT SHOULD SAY STUDENT INFO. CLICK ON THAT.**
- 7. RIGHT BELOW THAT BUTTON, YOU SHOULD SEE A BUTTON THAT SAYS PERSONAL INFORMATION. CLICK ON THAT.**
- 8. PLEASE UPDATE THE INFORMATION ON THIS PAGE.**
- 9. THEN CLICK ON THE ADD NEW ADULT BUTTON.**
- 10. PLEASE ADD THE INFORMATION FOR ANY PARENTS/GUARDIANS FOR THE STUDENT. THERE IS NO NEED TO PUT IN THE DRIVERS LICENSE NUMBER OR DATE OF BIRTH.**
- 11. FINALLY, IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CHANGE YOUR PASSWORD (OPTIONAL), CLICK ON THE CHANGE PASSWORD BUTTON AT THE TOP OF THE PAGE AND ENTER A NEW PASSWORD.**

Conclusion

The Western Dubuque color guard is made up of proud students who work hard. This work and pride are what make a team great. Being a member of a color guard is a great thing, especially the Western Dubuque Color Guard. I look forward to working with them.

Michael Omarzu - Flag Director

Reminder! - Students will need to return the forms in the back of this handbook as soon as possible. Students must return them before any grades will be awarded.

Thank you!

THIS FORM DUE NO LATER THAN THE 3RD DAY OF SCHOOL

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF FLAG HANDBOOK INFORMATION AND POLICIES

TO BE TURNED IN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE POLICIES IN THE WESTERN DUBUQUE FLAG HANDBOOK. I WILL FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES STATED TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY.

STUDENT SIGNATURE **DATE**

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE POLICIES IN THE WESTERN DUBUQUE FLAG HANDBOOK. I UNDERSTAND THE EXPECTATIONS FOR MY CHILD AND I WILL HELP MY CHILD TO ABIDE BY THESE EXPECTATIONS.

PARENT SIGNATURE **DATE**

FLAG USE CONTRACT

I UNDERSTAND I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR MY FLAGS AND POLES AND I WILL GIVE THEM PROPER CARE. I WILL PAY FOR ANY DAMAGE THAT IS NOT NORMAL WEAR AND TEAR. I WILL LET THE FLAG DIRECTOR KNOW IMMEDIATELY IF THERE ARE ANY PROBLEMS WITH THE INSTRUMENT.

STUDENT SIGNATURE _____

PARENT SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

THIS FORM DUE NO LATER THAN THE 3RD DAY OF SCHOOL

Color Guard Uniform Agreement

2017-2018

As a member of the Color Guard, I agree to the following:

- 1. I will treat my uniform with care. It will always be on a hanger or on me.*
- 2. I will wear proper undergarments under my uniform.*
- 3. I will dry clean my uniform if needed throughout the season.*
- 4. I will keep it in its bag when transporting it. Otherwise, I will hang it out of the bag so it can air out.*
- 5. I will pay for the replacement or repair cost of any damaged or missing parts.*
- 7. I will return all but the shoes at the end of the year*

Name _____

Student Signature _____ **Date** _____

Parent Signature _____ **Date** _____

THIS FORM DUE NO LATER THAN THE 3RD DAY OF SCHOOL

SINCE WE OFTEN POST THINGS ON OUR WEBSITE, PLEASE COMPLETE THIS STATEMENT (CIRCLE ONE):

I Do DO NOT GIVE PERMISSION FOR PHOTOGRAPHS OF MY CHILD TO APPEAR ON THE BAND WEB SITE LOCATED AT WWW.WDHSBAND.COM.

DATE _____ PARENT'S SIGNATURE _____

WESTERN DUBUQUE COLOR GUARD FEE SCHEDULE

NAME _____

EACH YEAR, THE COLOR GUARD RECEIVES NEW UNIFORMS TO MATCH THE THEME OF THE SHOW. THESE UNIFORMS AVERAGE OVER \$200 PER STUDENT. COLOR GUARD MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO CONTRIBUTE A PORTION OF THIS AMOUNT TO HELP COVER THE COST. THIS YEAR'S AMOUNT IS \$80. PLEASE FILL THIS FORM OUT AND RETURN WITH THE FEE. THANK YOU!

COLOR GUARD UNIFORM 2017

\$80

INCLUDES TOP, PANTS, SHOES, GLOVES, AND T-SHIRT.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO WDHS
