

WSHSB CONCERT SEASON DRESS CODES

For Practice, Dress Rehearsal and Concerts

(Last revised 05/13/2016)

PARENTS: Please review the following dress codes for the WSHSB Concert Season **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.**

OVERVIEW

The WSHSB is a Christian home schooled children's band. As with any organization, there are rules. Each individual in the band not only represents himself and his family, but Christian homes schoolers. Individual band members offer a *visual* testimony of the values, deportment, character and focus of the WSHSB at large. The following dress code is not a judgment on individual dress styles or personalities but is a requirement for membership in the WSHSB organization for the purpose of appearance, unity and discipline.

There are opportunities for self-expression and individuality in the WSHSB: performances for auditions, solo/ensemble contests, concert opportunities as well as numerous service and musicianship opportunities. These are positive and acceptable, non-visual ways to stand out in our organization.

If an individual chooses to become a member of the WSHSB band, he will be required to comply with the dress and behavioral codes of the band. 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

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. Outfits that are immodest, too tight, short, loose, torn, contain inappropriate messages or symbols and any hair color that is not a naturally occurring shade are not acceptable. Clothing, hair styles and accessories chosen to attract undue attention, are also unacceptable. Parents, please show appropriate consideration. Band members; please remove any hat before taking your place at band practice. 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 to band dressed inappropriately they will be given an XXL t-shirt to wear for the duration of rehearsal.

A UNIFORM LOOK

As in many disciplined groups (i.e., sports teams, religious organizations, drum corps), a dress code is established, respected and followed. We have a set uniform. The goal is to provide a clean, neat uniform appearance to provide discipline. We strive to become one band, one look, one sound. In order to do this, no one member's appearance should stand out. We are a group with a common goal and focus. Women have the option to wear pants or skirts, but the shirt, bow tie and cummerbund or jacket are required, as specified. Unlike other bands and groups, we do not require you to purchase uniform accessories nor do we charge a rental fee for these items. Damage or loss will result in a replacement fee. However, we do require that the dress code be [strictly adhered to](#).

The Summer Marching Dress Code is slightly different from Concert Dress and is described in detail on the **Summer Marching** webpage.

WSHSB DRESS REHEARSAL AND CONCERT DRESS CODE:

NOTE: The band director reserves the right to deny any student'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. Details follow for what is and is not acceptable.

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

- 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. 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 blouses and no blouses 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, turtlenecks, or mock necks.
- Only solid white or flesh-tone undergarments to be worn under dress shirts.

BOTTOMS

- Due to the changing fads in women's' pants towards revealing, form-fitting leggings, the dress code is being changed to be more specific: Both men and women are now officially required to wear "trouser-style" dress pants. Parents, please help us maintain a military, uniform look to our band by providing the proper style pants for your children. Also remember that the band has black pants you can borrow.

Black 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. If you need pants, sign up for the Jacket and Pants fitting in November to get a pair of WSHSB pants, available for lending.

- 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 more info regarding skirts at the end of this list.

SHOES and SOCKS

- Girls wearing a skirt for a concert wear flesh-colored nylons. (This differs from the marching dress code.)
- Black, opaque, dress/trouser socks must be worn by anyone wearing pants. Socks must be long enough so no color other than solid black is visible below the hem of the pants, when seated. Therefore, no sheer, black nylon knee-highs for ladies.
- Black leather shoes of a conservative style with a low heel and sole. Shoes must be **solid black** with no other colors. If shoes are laced, laces must be black. No gym shoes, sandals, boots or flip-flops.

CUMMERBUNDS and BOW TIES

Neither is worn by Cadets. Band supplies/loans them when needed. They are collected after each performance.

- Red bow ties – Worn by Concert Junior and up

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

- Red cummerbunds – Worn by Concert Senior and up

BLUE SYMPHONIC JACKETS

Symphonic members wear blue jackets, provided by the band.

For details about how to get a jacket and/or return requirements, see the "Jacket and Pants Fitting" section in the Handbook.

AWARDS and JEWELRY

- Award medals must be pinned on the red award ribbon, 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.
- 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 may be solid red or white, or must match the student's hair color.
- Please, 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.

REMAIN IN CONCERT 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.

REGARDING SKIRTS

Some have expressed difficulty in finding longer length skirts for girls to wear at concerts. Here are three 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 anytime, reasonable prices, good fit and excellent customer service.

[E C Benson Concert Wear/Equipment](#)

[ConcertDress.com - Welcome](#)

[Band Mart Accessories](#)

JACKET AND PANTS FITTING

[For 2015-2016 the Jacket/Pants coordinator is Mrs. Dena Wiesner-Pardee.](#)

A Jackets and Pants Fitting/Exchange is held on an evening or two in the first trimester. The location may not be the same as in the past and will be announced beforehand 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). Pants being returned should be laundered. If you have outgrown your jacket or are returning it for any reason you must do one or the other

- Return the dry-cleaned jacket to the jacket coordinator, NOT MRS. BOROW, in the cleaner's bag with cleaning tags/receipt attached
OR
- Pay \$10 and we will have the jacket dry-cleaned

New Symphonic Band members, who do not have a blue band jacket, will need to make an appointment to come to a 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.

Email or call Mrs. Dena Wiesner-Pardee if you need to exchange or pick up a jacket or pants so she knows 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.**