



# **Fishers Marching TIGER Band**

## **2018 Handbook**

Congratulations! You have chosen to be a part of the 2018 Fishers High School Marching TIGER Band! Welcome! This handbook you will find all the rules and regulations for the Fishers High School TIGER Band. If you have any questions about items in the handbook please contact the Director, Chad Kohler at [ckohler@hse.k12.in.us](mailto:ckohler@hse.k12.in.us).

The Fishers band program embodies the vision, mission, and core purpose set forth by Fishers High School. Fishers High School education community will nurture a culture of excellence and empower students to become lifelong learners. Our mission is to promote respect, foster pride, and inspire excellence. Our core purpose is to prepare lifelong learners who positively impact an ever-changing world.

### **Membership**

The TIGER Band contains three main groups: winds, color guard, and percussion. In unison they comprise the TIGER band. This ensemble will play for all home football games and competitions as set on the band calendar, which is found at [Fishersband.org/calendar/](http://Fishersband.org/calendar/)

#### *Membership Ineligibility*

- A student may be placed on the ineligible list due to outstanding balance from the previous season
- A student may be placed on the ineligible list due to recommendation of the director and/or staff for contract violations occurring from the previous season (see Dismissal and Resignations)
- A student may be placed on the ineligible list due to infractions of the Fishers High School Dean's Office.

### *Academic Standards*

Any student who does not obtain a 2.0 GPA during the season will be placed on academic probation. This is to protect the integrity of our program and to help students understand that a good education is paramount to your success in life.

### *Dropbox and Remind*

Dropbox will be used by this ensemble to help send out handouts and well as music and videos. All members will be automatically added to Dropbox. Please email the director from the email address you wish to be added.

Both students and parents are encouraged to sign up for the Remind 101 notifications. It is a great tool and we send information through this frequently!

Send a text to this number: **81010**

In the text message, type these characters: **@fish-march**

## Financial Responsibilities

### *Dues*

Student dues cover expenses related to uniforms, flags, props, equipment, transportation, contest entry fees, and staff. The fee for the 2018 season is \$685.00. Due dates are as follows:

### **2018 Marching Band Fees**

| <b>Due date</b> | <b>Payment</b> |
|-----------------|----------------|
| June 10         | \$137          |
| July 1          | \$137          |
| August 1        | \$137          |
| September 1     | \$137          |
| October 1       | \$137          |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>\$685</b>   |

### **Additional costs**

| <b>Cost</b>       | <b>Applies to</b>                             | <b>Fee</b>              |
|-------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Guard warm ups    | Guard   | \$80                    |
| Percussion sticks | Battery                                       | \$10/pair               |
| Mallets           | Front Ensemble                                | \$25 to \$50 per season |
| Marching shoes    | New members or veterans who need replacements | \$35                    |

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If you need to make other arrangements, please just let us know. WE CAN work something out. Please contact the Student Accounts representative by emailing [studentaccounts@fishersband.org](mailto:studentaccounts@fishersband.org) to make alternative arrangements. Accelerated payments are always accepted.

#### *Fundraising - Student Account*

Please visit the Fishers Band website for fundraising opportunities including Snap Raise, SCRIP, Connor Prairie and Lucas Oil Stadium Concession opportunities, Indianapolis Convention Center and Trash Bag Sales.

#### *Fundraising – General Account*

We may host fundraisers during the year to go to the general account. These may include but not limited to, Bake Sales, Car Washes, Online Sales, and so on. These are in place to help keep the individual membership fees as low as possible. All students are expected to participate.

### **Attendance**

**Attendance to all rehearsals and performances is MANDATORY due to the accelerated pace of the program.** All conflicts must be shared with the Director prior to the start of the season.

The director reserves the right to make minimal changes to the existing schedule, provided they supply adequate notice to all members. Mostly these changes are due to facility or accommodation changes.

If a student misses a rehearsal for ANY reason, it is the responsibility of the student to learn what was missed outside of normal rehearsal hours by working with a captain or veteran member in the student's own section. Failure to do so could result in a change in the student's allowance to perform. This will be determined by the Marching Band Director.

#### *Excused Absences*

Excused absences include, but are not limited to contagious illness or fever, major family events, or religious obligations. The director will determine the validity of all excused absences. Unexcused absences include, but are not limited to work, practice for other activities (unless pre-approved by Director), professional concerts/plays, routine doctor appointments, vacations, lack of transportation, or homework. ALL unexcused absences will be reflected in the student's allowance to perform, and repeat violations could lead to dismissal from the group. *If a student is unexcused from the rehearsal the day of a performance, the student may or may not be permitted to perform that day.*

#### *Tardiness*

If a student is running late to rehearsal, then it is the responsibility of the student to contact a section leader **AND** director. Repeat violations will be reflected in the student's allowance to perform and could lead to dismissal from the group.

#### *Illness*

If a student is absent from school due to illness, they will not be expected to attend rehearsal. HOWEVER, to be granted an excused absence, the parent or guardian needs to email or call the director prior to the missed rehearsal. If student misses more than one rehearsal in a row due to

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illness, a doctor's note will be required. If a student is not contagious or running a fever, they are highly encouraged to come to rehearsal to watch and take notes.

*HSE District Policy:* Students who are absent all day, due to illness, may not attend an extracurricular activity that day. If extenuating school or family circumstances result in a student's failure to be present the required four completed periods, an exception can be made. Reasons may include: approved college visit, FHS field trips, medical emergency, and funeral.

***Communication is the key.*** We understand that emergencies happen. Please contact the director immediately about potential absences, illness, and injury.

## Rehearsal

### *Rehearsal Etiquette*

- Always show respect for all staff, leaders, and teammates.
- Remain positive and congenial (An excessive negative attitude can result in DISMISSAL from the rehearsal, performance, or program.)
- All cell phones will be on silent and not to be used during rehearsal unless on break.
- No talking during instruction.
- No sitting during rehearsal.
- Come prepared to rehearsal with water and snack, but wait for a break before exiting the rehearsal space for water or bathroom breaks.
- Always respect your equipment.

Should a student demonstrate on a regular basis that he or she does not subscribe to the proper conduct at a rehearsal, the director reserves the right to evaluate the student's performance, and to make a decision as to whether the student should perform in upcoming shows. The director also reserves the right to send such a student home from rehearsal and request a parent/student conference to determine future course of action.

### *Rehearsal Attire*

All students are required to wear appropriate athletic clothes and athletic shoes during rehearsal. Please wear comfortable athletic style clothing. With CLEAN socks and gym shoes with support. On the Friday football game days, students will wear the RED Parade/FHS Band shirts, long black socks, black marching shoes and provided uniform.

*If a student is in violation of the appropriate dress code, they will be asked to call home for the appropriate apparel. If a student is in continued violation, the student will be asked to leave rehearsal.*

### *Conditioning*

It is important to note that marching band is a physical activity. There is a great demand placed on a student to be able to march and perform a complete show. It is the belief of the staff that there should

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be some proper conditioning on the part of the students, in order to facilitate a strong personal performance and to prevent injury. Calisthenics, stretching, and running will be reinforced at rehearsal.

### *Equipment*

It is the responsibility of the student to take care of the equipment. Lost or excessively damaged equipment will be the student's responsibility to replace. For safety reasons, never let members from other sections use your equipment. To check out school owned equipment (brass, woodwind, drums or mallet instruments), you will need to check out it out with the director. **Students will be responsible for lost or broken equipment on an individual basis.**

### *Performances*

#### *Trip Etiquette*

- Please remember you are representing Fishers High School. Be respectful of other groups, each other, and applaud for each performance. Do not talk disrespectfully about any group as you never know who is sitting or standing around you.
- Always follow instructions from directors, staff, and chaperones.
- No photos or videos will be taken on the bus.
- We are ambassadors of the HSE School District, Fishers High School, and the Fishers Band Program. Always conduct yourself appropriately and absolutely NO public displays of affection or inappropriate language.
- After performances, we will sit in the stands together. The buddy system will be used if going to concessions and the restroom.

#### *Uniform*

- Students will wear uniforms while at shows. This includes either the show shirt or a Fishers shirt, jacket and pants. If you change into your uniform early, Guard might wear warm up (jacket zipped) OVER your uniform.
- Hair and makeup designs will be determined by directors. All students must comply with the look to the best of their ability for the purpose of uniformity. Please follow the instruction of the staff to their exact specifications.
- If a student colors their hair, please keep it a natural color. Extreme colors are prohibited.
- NO jewelry will be worn while in uniform.
- Do not eat or drink anything other than water in uniform.

#### *Buses*

- Respect chaperones, bus drivers, and event personal just as you do the staff.
  - All HSE district bus rules apply.
  - Buses will be clean at the end of the trip. Remember the Golden Rule: Pick up trash.... even if it's not yours.
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- All students are required to ride the bus to competition. If a student would like to ride home with their parents, then a handwritten note must be given to the Director who will inform the head chaperone PRIOR to leaving for the performance. A chaperone must see a student leaving with THEIR OWN parent/guardian. Students may not leave with someone else's parent even if consent is given. The only exception will be those students carpooling to another school event. It will be the responsibility of the student leaving to make sure their equipment and uniform make it back to the school the day of the performance.

## CODE OF CONDUCT

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- Since Marching Band is a Fishers High School activity, members MUST adhere to all rules and regulations as set forth by Fishers High School and Hamilton Southeastern Schools.
  - Superior, attentive conduct is mandatory at all rehearsals and competitions. Full cooperation with the staff and faculty is expected.
  - There will be no use or carriage of illegal substances, drugs, alcohol, or tobacco in any form at any time.
  - Violent actions or aggressive behavior will not be tolerated. Members are to keep their hands to themselves.
  - Members will refrain from any questionable behavior or action. (This includes avoiding the perception of wrongdoing!)
  - Vulgar and profane language, in any form, will not be tolerated.
  - Members are to act courteously and dress appropriately at FHS, host schools, buses, and festival facilities. Students are to show respect for all people, property and local rules at all times.
  - Members will respect the equipment they are using including but not limited to sound equipment, poles, silks, rifles, sabers, uniforms, props, carts, and transportation vehicles.
  - Members who carelessly damage equipment will be responsible for the replacement cost of the damaged equipment.
  - Members must be in place, with their equipment, ready to rehearse prior to the beginning of every rehearsal.
  - Members will follow all bus driver rules during transport. Disruptive or distracting behavior will not be tolerated.
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*Any member who fails to abide by this code will be subject to Hamilton Southeastern Schools' disciplinary policies and procedures and will forfeit their membership in the Fishers High School Tiger Band program.*

## PARENTAL SUPPORT

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Congratulations parents! You are now a member of the Fishers High School Band Boosters! The band program would not be successful without the support of the Boosters. The Boosters meet the 2nd Monday of every month at 7 pm in the FHS Band Room. Please plan on attending these meeting to be informed about the program's happenings.

### Communication

Almost 100% of communication will be through newsletters, Cut Time, and Remind. BOTH parents and students are expected to check for information on a daily basis. Please make sure that the email on file in Charms is the e-mail that you will be able to access on a daily basis. If a parent or student does not have access to their email, please let the director know ASAP so that an alternate form of communication can be applied.

*Parents, if you have questions, please ask your student first.* (Students, please make sure you are passing along all information to your parents.). If the student is unable to answer, please email or call the director.

### Chaperones

Parents who volunteer as chaperones will need a criminal background check on file with the district. Please see the band website for instructions on background check instructions.

At each rehearsal and camp, parent chaperones are used to help keep the day moving efficiently. Chaperones are assigned to each rehearsal and on camp days the rehearsal will be split up into shifts. Typically referred to as the *first aide tent*, the job consists of everything from giving students a Band-Aid, icepack, or Ibuprofen for a headache. Chaperones will have the student medical forms and will log everything in a medical record book. Parents do not need to have any medical background to volunteer. For each contest, 2 chaperones are needed to ride each bus and be with the kids throughout the day. These parents receive free admission to the contest.

### Food

Since contest days are typically long, making sure the students eat at least one good meal is vital. Parents will be asked to help donate food during the season.

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## Equipment crew and transportation

During competitions we only have a certain amount of time to set up their equipment, perform their show, and then exit the field. We need parents to volunteer so students can prepare themselves before and relax after their show.

## Uniforms

Keep the students looking their best is a very important job. Parent volunteers help maintain and repair uniforms and flags.

## Communication expectations from Members and Parents

It is the goal of the staff is that each student in the program receives the most rewarding and fulfilling experience. It is important to understand that there will also be times when things do not go the way you and your student wish. When this occurs, discussion with the staff is encouraged. It is the *first* and the most integral step to understanding and to coming to a resolution.

### *Appropriate Concerns to Discuss*

- Treatment of *YOUR* student
- Ways to help *YOUR* student improve
- Concerns about *YOUR* student's behavior

### *Inappropriate Concerns to Discuss*

- A student's spot in the drill/show, or changes to existing spot in the drill
- Assigned equipment
- Show design
- Other students

If you have a concern, call or email the director to discuss the matter or set up an appointment. Please **DO NOT** attempt to confront a staff member or director before or after a contest or rehearsal. This can be an emotional and hectic time for both staff and parents. This is an unacceptable form of communication and will be dealt with quickly and with authority.

### *Concerns with a Staff Member*

The staff is selected based on their qualifications to do the job asked of them and share many years of experience between them. If a concern is raised about a particular staff member, please contact the director as soon as possible. Your cooperation with this is greatly appreciated.

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***Chad Kohler***

Marching Band Director  
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***Todd McCreedy***

Assistant Marching Band Director  
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# Fishers Marching TIGER Band

## Handbook Acknowledgement & Agreement 2018

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**TO RESERVE A SPOT FOR YOU, YOU MUST TURN IN THIS FORM. DUE TO THE NATURE OF CUSTOM MUSIC & VISUAL DESIGN, WE MUST HAVE YOUR COMMITMENT BY MAY 15th, 2018.**

### *Student Statement*

I hereby certify that I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand the contents of the Fishers Marching TIGER Band Handbook. I recognize and fully understand the rules and regulations by which I may participate. I understand and agree that membership in the Fishers Marching TIGER Band is voluntary, extracurricular, and contingent upon my fulfillment of these requirements, and I am prepared to accept the consequences for any violation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### *Parent/Guardian Statement*

I hereby verify that I have read and understand the contents of the Fishers Marching TIGER Band Handbook. I recognize and understand the rules and regulations by which my student may participate. I understand and agree that membership in the Fishers Marching TIGER Band is voluntary, extracurricular, and contingent upon my student's fulfillment of these requirements and I acknowledge my student's consequences of violating the contents of this handbook.

I understand the payment schedule. By signing this document, I agree to pay the Marching TIGER Band dues in full per the outlined payment schedule (or otherwise agreed upon payment terms). *I understand that even if my student leaves the program at any time during the season, I am still required to pay the dues in full.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Print

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