



# ***Stow-Munroe Falls*** **High School**

# **Band** **Handbook** **2026-2027**

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## **SMFHS BAND MISSION STATEMENT:**

The mission of the SMFHS Band is to provide a quality music education to all students. The goal is to achieve quality by focusing on the individual performer. Concert bands, marching band, jazz band, small ensembles, and solo experience lead to a well rounded player. Performance opportunities, especially those through the Ohio Music Education Association, are encouraged for all. Additionally, through the band, students develop a sense of belonging, team work, time management, dedication, self esteem, leadership, cooperation and responsibility.

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# STOW-MUNROE FALLS BAND HANDBOOK

## BAND LEADERSHIP & ORGANIZATION

### **I. The Directors:**

### **II. Section Leaders:**

Section leaders are chosen based on their chair placement and seniority in band, dedication and leadership skills. The concept of the total sound of the Stow Band is developed through communication between the sections & the band directors. Sectional rehearsals should be scheduled by the section leaders to develop:

1. Accuracy of rhythms
2. Matched section tone and pitch
3. Uniform interpretation of musical marking & articulations
4. Consistency and uniformity of playing & marching style.

### **III. Student Conductors**

Student Conductors shall assist with conducting the band. Any Junior or Senior may audition for a student conductor position. Auditions will focus on conducting skill, personality, leadership and dependability. All student conductors shall play their instrument during pregame and test off all music from all shows.

### **IV. Squad Leaders:**

Squad leaders are upperclassmen selected by the directors and are directly responsible for both the playing & marching precision of their squad. The squad leaders determine the line-up of their squad and enforce the use of music while outdoors. In rehearsals, squad leaders must have and use their music & charts at all times. Failure to meet the expectations of the director can result in the removal of the student from his/her position. Students interested in becoming a squad leader should demonstrate a good attitude and the ability to lead through example. A written essay will be required when applying for a squad leader position. Testing grades, marching fundamentals, attendance and ability to lead will be examined.

### **V. Band Officers:**

Band officers will be elected by the students to assist the directors in the organization of special events & programs. They are the student leaders of the program & represent the bands. The following positions are elected each year.

\* **PRESIDENT:** Must be a senior

The band president presides over executive meetings & coordinates all activities. As a motivational leader the president helps to maintain a positive learning environment by setting a tone and attitude for the band. The president is also the student's representative to the Stow-Munroe Falls Band Parents Association and attends the monthly meetings.

Specific Duties:

- \* Must coordinate with the Directors in motivation of the band
- \* Coordinates Senior Activities at Band Camp with the Directors
- \* Maintains contact with students and the directors
- \* Lock-in: Works with Vice President
- \* Maintains close contact with Head Chaperone
- \* Helps organize Food and Drinks at Life Center Plus
- \* Presents a short introduction at the Spring Band Awards Banquet

\* **VICE PRESIDENT:** Must be a senior

The band vice president works together with the band president. The VP is responsible for gathering ideas from the class representatives and the band in general. He/She assists with all committees/projects. The VP is a vital member of the band motivation team. The vice president attends band booster meetings monthly.

Specific Duties:

- \* Plans and runs the Senior/Freshman Party in the Summer
- \* Lockin: Works with the President
- \* Sets Tournament Schedules and Games.
- \* Sets Performing Group Orders
- \* Assist with sending out invitations and PR for concerts.

## **Band Officers: continued**

- \* **CLASS REPRESENTATIVES:** One from each class.

The class reps are the direct representatives of their class. They are responsible for bringing concerns, ideas or suggestions to the VP. They will also be responsible for planning class events

Specific Duties:

- \*\* *Senior:* Assigns Big Brothers/Big Sisters.
- \* Holds Class Meetings & Helps organize band events.
- \* Organizes Class Projects
- \* Maintains class rosters and deposits for band activities.

- \* **CLASS DELEGATES:** Students may selected from each class 9-11. These are non voting members and are only selected for their views. These may be appointed by a director or officer.

## **PERFORMING ENSEMBLES:**

Students enrolled in the band program must participate in Marching Band and one of the Concert Band programs. Upon completion students will earn 1 credit for the class.

### **"Bulldog" MARCHING BAND:**

This is a mandatory part of the band curriculum. Participation requires attendance at summer rehearsals, band camp, Thursday evening rehearsals, football games and band shows/contests.

**CONCERT BANDS:** students will be selected by audition for one of the following groups.

#### **The Wind Ensemble:**

The Wind Ensemble is the highest level performing ensemble at SMFHS. Students will perform difficult musical selections usually reserved for college level ensembles. Considered the band department's honors level class. Class size typically 50-65 students.

#### **Maroon and Gold Symphonic Bands**

The Symphonic Band is designed as an upper high school level performing ensemble. Class size is typically between 60-90 students. In the event of two symphonic bands students may be split by ability level or divided equally. Multiple bands would be called the "Maroon" or "Gold" bands.

#### **The Freshmen Band:**

The Freshmen Band is designed as an average level performing group concentrating on developing concepts such as rhythm, tone, pitch and musicianship. Size of class typically 70-90 students.

## **JAZZ**

### **ENSEMBLES:**

Jazz Ensembles are offered once Marching Band is finished. Rehearsals are typically on Thursday nights. The Jazz Ensembles perform at band concerts and take part in jazz festivals. Acceptance in Jazz 1, 2 and 3 are based on concert band audition. Rhythm section players: Piano, bass, guitar and drum set all have a separate audition.

## **BAND ACTIVITIES:**

Below is a partial list of SMFHS Band Activities, Practices & Performances during the year. Some of these are mandatory while others are voluntary. Current info is also available on the **SMFBand** or web site and calendar <http://stowband.org>

## **Mandatory Band Activities:**

1. Marching Band Reading Session.
2. July 4th Parade & Practices: for current grades 8-11.
3. Band Camp & Evening Practices (in both marching band and concert band seasons).
4. Tag Day: Saturday in April or May from 9:30AM to 12:30 PM.
5. Concerts, Football Games, Band Shows, District & State Large Group Contest.
6. Daytime Pep Assemblies: during school time.
7. End of Year Performances: Commencement (Wind Ensemble), Senior Recognition Ceremony. (Freshman Band), and Memorial Day Services (Symphonic Bands).

## **Voluntary Activities:**

1. Summer & Winter Parties / Lock-in: Possible small charges to cover food and facilities.
2. Solo and Ensemble Contest: Only students studying privately are permitted to play solos. Ensembles are open to everyone. (small charge). However, if a student signs up for an ensemble, they are expected to participate.
3. Jazz Band: Depending on the interest, 2 or 3 Jazz Bands will be offered. Rehearsals begin in November on Wednesday or Thursday nights.
4. Band Awards Banquet: Small cost involved per person. Open to all band families in May.

## **PROCEDURES REGARDING ABSENCES:**

### **To be *considered* an excused absence you must do the following:**

Submit a note or email from parent or guardian with the student's name, reason for the absence, date of the absence to the director of the ensemble, **THREE WEEKS PRIOR TO THE EVENT**. If a student misses a rehearsal or performance due to an emergency, the student should turn in a note of explanation immediately upon his/her return.

## **BAND HONORS:**

The goal of **Band Honors** is to improve musicianship and to encourage students to go beyond what the student is exposed to daily during the band period. We have developed a variety of activities to meet the criteria for the honors credit. Points awarded are weighted based on the time commitment and the musical impact.

Each quarter the student must complete **5 honors points** from the numerous categories. **The student must complete a BAND HONORS COMPLETION FORM one week before the end of each quarter.**

10% of the student's grade in Band Honors or Band Honors 9 is based on completing the requirements of the class. If a student does not return the Band Honors Credit Point Sheet and does not complete the 5 points, they will not earn the 10%, thus lowering their final grade by one letter.

## **EXCUSED ABSENCES FROM PRACTICES, PERFORMANCES OR OTHER REQUIRED ACTIVITIES:**

1. Personal illness - notice by e-mail.
2. Unavoidable family events: Weddings, a death in the family, etc.....three week notice applies (if possible).
3. Direct conflicts with other school activities. This means the student is a necessary participant in the activity. Direct conflicts do not include: practices, banquets, working on behalf of an organization in which you do not belong (a sophomore working in a Senior Class Play), or attendance at optional events or activities. In the event of two performances/events scheduled at the same time, the higher level event receives precedence.
  - \* Games supersedes rehearsals
  - \* Performances supersedes practices
  - \* Tournament/playoff supersedes performances

\* With sports teams, students who are starters will be excused, those who are not starters, must attend the band performance. **Any questions will be worked out between the student/coach and teacher prior to the event.**

5. Post-Secondary Class Conflicts that can not be resolved: three week notice applies.
6. Other items at the discretion of the director of the musical ensemble.
7. **Students may be asked to do additional projects or tests to make up for the absence.**

## **UNEXCUSED ABSENCES FROM PRACTICES, PERFORMANCES OR REQUIRED ACTIVITIES:**

**WORK AND HOMEWORK IS NOT CONSIDERED AN EXCUSED ABSENCE** - your first obligation is to your school and its classes. Employers should be notified well in advance of your obligations to both family and school events. Provide your employer a copy of your calendar to assist them in scheduling.

## **EVALUATION AND GRADING POLICY: Marching Band**

### **I. DAILY PRACTICE & PERFORMANCE: 40% of Final Grade:**

Students begin the year with 100 points in this category. Unexcused absences, tardies, or cuts are subtracted from 100 points.

#### **REHEARSALS & ACTIVITIES**

Unexcused absence or Cuts - 10 pts  
 Unexcused absence: Sectionals - 5 pts  
 Tardies - 5 pts  
 Excused but late - 5 pts

#### **PERFORMANCES**

Unexcused Absence or Cuts -50  
 Excused but late: -10 to -25  
 Discipline problems @ concerts -25-50 per incident

### **II. TESTS & QUIZZES: 40% of Final Grade** (Written and or Playing Exams)

During marching band season music will be tested from memory in front of a squad leader, section leader or director. If a student passes the piece on time, the student will receive an A (100%). The piece must be played with correct style, dynamics and articulations. The week after a piece has been performed, the highest grade that can be received is a B (85%), two weeks a C (75%), three weeks a D (65%), and four weeks an F (55%). **Failure to pass a piece within five weeks after it's due will result in a 0.** Students are encouraged to **ATTEMPT** to pass every piece. An attempt is considered a "good try" but contains too many mistakes to be considered a pass. *Students may earn an ATTEMPT (50%) on a piece until the end of the nine weeks. ATTEMPTS may be tested for a higher grade at any times up to 5 weeks after the first performance.* It is important students stay current on the testing schedule and **ATTEMPT** each song on time. Not attempting or passing a song will seriously impact the Final Testing Grade. A Marching grade is also included into the Test & Quizzes category. Below is a breakdown of our grading procedure.

<b>PREGAME</b> 8% (7-9 tunes)	<b>SHOW SHOW</b> 8%	<b>HOMECOMING KP NIGHT</b> 8% (3 tunes)	<b>SR SHOW</b> 8% (3 tunes)	<b>MARCHING GRADE</b> 8%
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**III. PARTICIPATION GRADES: 20% of Final Grade**

Students begin the year with 100 points in this category. Participation infractions will be subtracted from 100 pts.

Cooperation, interest, and enthusiasm is a must for a band to function at its best. The participation grade is based upon the student’s attitude, behavior and willingness to learn. Marching band inspection will be given. Students will lose points for uniform violation. (dirty gloves, shoes, spats, un-hemmed pants, wrinkled uniforms).

No Instrument:	-10	Uniform Violations	- 5 for EACH violation
No Music:	-10	Discipline Infractions	- 5 to -10 for each violation.
Not Prepared for class	- 5		
Missing Equipment	- 5	(Reeds, Mouthpiece, Neck Strap, Lyre, Pencil, etc.)	

**EVALUATION AND GRADING POLICY: Concert Bands**

**I. DAILY PARTICIPATION IN REHEARSALS: 40% of Final Grade:**

Students will earn 100 points per week. Participation & Attendance (tardies) will be counted against the weekly points. (For an average week, students earn 20 points per day, 20 points x 5 days = 100 pts)

**REHEARSALS**

Cut Class	-50 pts	No Instrument/Reed	-50 pts
Tardy	-20 pts	No Music	-20 to -50
Not Prepared for class	-15 to -50 pts	Discipline Problems	-5 to -20
Music/Instrument not taken home.	- 50 points	Behavior	-20 to-50 and/or or office referral

**II. PERFORMANCES: 40% of Final Grade:**

A Performance is the culmination of weeks of hard work and team practice. Your attendance and participation at a Performance is your grade. In the case of excused absences, students will perform the selections from the performance individually for a grade. This will be scheduled with a director and will take place after school hours. A student who has an excused absence, but does not complete their playing test, will receive a 0 for the performance. **ALL UNEXCUSED absences will be recorded as a 0.** Any discipline problems at concerts including the usage of technology will result in the loss of points at the discretion of the directors.

**III. TESTS: Written, Practice Tapes, Performances Tapes, or Playing Tests 20% of Final Grade:**

Each quarter you must complete 2 recordings of yourself playing selected music. One recording must be practice sessions of at least 15 minutes and one must be a “performance” recording. Performance tapes will be graded on musical accuracy and are counted as twice the weight of a practice tape. You may also substitute a Practice or Performance tape with an Exemption Form. **Practice Tapes** must be a minimum of 15 minutes. You should drill specific areas in your music focusing on: Rhythm, Articulation, Note Accuracy, Dynamics, Intonation. **Performance Tapes** are a recording of an entire selection or selections that will be performed at the next concert. There is no “going back or fixing.” This tape will be graded on accuracy. You will want to submit your most quality work.

**WRITTEN TESTS:**

Throughout the year students may be evaluated using a written test. These tests may include: musical terms, writing correct rhythms, and/or key signatures. Students may also be asked evaluate a performance (live or recorded). When evaluating a performance, students will complete a rubric to evaluate tone, intonation, note accuracy, rhythmic accuracy, dynamics and overall musicality. It is the hope that as students learn to identify those characteristics as they listen to music, they can apply it to their own performances.

## FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

The school district is not responsible for stolen or damaged instruments that are owned, rented or borrowed by the students. The instrument storage room is not secure 100% of the time so it is a good idea to lock your cases. Parents may wish to insure their student's instrument under their homeowner's or renter's policy.

**Students must take proper care of their instruments, including not leaving them in practice rooms, classrooms, busses, hallways or on the floor in the storage room.** Never touch another person's instrument or allow anyone to play your instrument. .

Only PERCUSSION students are permitted to play, touch or move percussion instruments. STRING instruments should not be touched at any time for any reason.

## GENERAL BAND ROOM RULES:

1. **DRINKS or FOOD** are not permitted during the school day.
2. When going to a rehearsal, you should take your instrument in its case. This facilitates class changes and keeps instruments safe.
3. You are responsible for the cleanliness of your area in the instrument storage room & band room. Do not leave anything other than your instrument & music in your storage locker. **Instrument cases must be closed & latched at all times.** All percussion instruments should be correctly put away after use.
5. Vandalism & Theft will not be tolerated and you will be prosecuted.
6. **The office is for directors only. If they are not in the office, please stay out!**
7. Other than during band, students are not permitted in the music area without a pass signed by a director.
8. **CELL PHONES are permitted in rehearsal for tuning only.**

## USE AND CARE OF MUSIC

1. Music is our text. Your job as a musician is to take care of this music so it may be used multiple times. Each piece of music costs \$80 to \$200.00.
2. Use only *pencil* when marking concert band music. Be neat when marking music, and make only those marks that are absolutely necessary.
4. Do not fold, tear or otherwise mutilate music. Students will be held financially responsible for music that is not cared for properly.

Marching Band Music Replacement	\$5.00 per packet
Concert Band Replacement (originals)	\$5.00- \$12.00 per part
Jazz Band Music (originals)	\$5.00- \$12.00 per part

## DRESS FOR CONCERT BAND

### ***"Concert Black Professional Dress"***

To ensure a uniform professional and dignified look during concert season, the following dress code is in effect.

**Men:** Black Button Down Shirts and Ties, Black Pants, Black Socks and Black Shoes

**Women:** Black Shirts, or Blouses with sleeves, Black Pants (no yoga Pants) *or* Black Skirt that is FLOOR LENGTH. If the skirt is not floor length, you are required to wear black opaque tights or leggings with black shoes. If there is a problem we can reissue band pants.

# CONCERT ETIQUETE

It is our expectation that ALL STUDENTS will support each other by adhering to the following guidelines. Failure to do so will result in lowering your PERFORMANCE grade 20 to 50 points per incident. There will be no warnings.

1. You are expected to be in the auditorium in a seat or on the stage during performances for the entire evening.
2. Remain in your seat for the length of the performance. You may only leave your seat when going to perform.
3. Talking of any kind is not permitted.
4. FOOD, DRINKS or GUM ARE NOT PERMITTED IN THE AUDITORIUM AT ANY TIME.
5. CELL PHONES SHOULD BE TURNED OFF AND SHOULD BE KEPT OUT OF SIGHT DURING A PERFORMANCE.
6. DO NOT SING ALONG, SNAP FINGERS or PLAY ALONG WITH ANY PERFORMANCE.
7. CLEAN UP ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE GIVEN BY DIRECTORS PRIOR TO PERFORMANCES.

## AUDITION INFORMATION & PROCEDURES

### Concert Band Auditions

Concert Band Auditions will be held near the end of the first nine weeks. Everyone is expected to audition. The audition will serve as your second nine weeks performance tape grade. Upperclassmen will be scheduled into Gold or Maroon Symphonic Bands or Wind Ensemble. Freshman will audition for the purpose of chair placement in the Freshman Band. We will try to schedule the auditions during the school day, however it may be necessary to schedule after school or evening times as well. The 4 directors, with the assistance of outside professional musicians will hear the auditions. Students will be evaluated on the following areas:

- 1) 1 Scales: up to 4#’s & 4b’s plus a chromatic scale,
- 2) Two prepared pieces: (1 lyrical and 1 technical), &
- 3) Sight reading.

### CONCERT BAND CHALLENGES:

In order to provide a way for students to practice and improve their seating position, students may challenge the person sitting directly in front of them. Below, is the criteria used for challenges:

**Between band challenges:** The first chair person in Maroon and Gold Band may challenge the last chair student in Wind Ensemble.

**Within band challenges:**

1. Students may challenge the person directly in front of them.
2. If an entire section challenges or consecutive seats challenge, all scores will be compared & the section will be resealed accordingly.
3. If you sign up to challenge, you must play. If you forfeit your challenge, you are not permitted to challenge for the remainder of the year.
4. Directors may, at any time, schedule complete section challenge. All students in a section will be heard & resealed.
5. There will be no challenges 2 weeks prior to a performance. The director reserves the rights to not change any part assignments until after a performance and to disallow challenges for any reason.

### Marching Band Piccolo Auditions:

Students may audition for placement as a piccolo specialist in the marching band. Once accepted, student will not need to audition again. Auditions will include scales and a prepared piece. All auditions will take place in May.

## **Marching Band Percussion Auditions:**

Each year percussion students must audition for placement in the marching band percussion section. The audition will include a snare drum. Performance ability on snare drum will be used to determine positions on the snare drum, bass drum and cymbal lines. A student who wishes to audition for tenors must also play a prepared tenor selection. Students will be asked their choice of playing assignments, however we can not ensure that they will receive those assignments.

## **MARCHING BAND:**

### **Pre-Band Camp, Band Camp, Post-Band Camp and Homecoming Parade:**

Attendance at pre-band camp, band camp and post-band camp rehearsals is mandatory. These rehearsals are crucial to the band's success in preparation for the marching band season. Students in other SCHOOL activities who are officers or captains may participate in parade with their activity. ALL other students must participate in the parade with the band!

### **Football Season:**

The band will perform at all home and away football games. Football games are held on Friday evenings through the months of September, October and part of November. If the football team qualifies for play-offs, the marching band season will be extended. Band members are required to attend regardless of weather conditions.

#### **A. BAND STAND CONDUCT**

1. Good bands look organized at all times! Your conduct in the band stand during football games is important to the impression we leave with the general public. Poor discipline presents a negative impression and good discipline presents a positive impression. You must always strive for good discipline. A part of that discipline is showing school spirit and supporting the football team.
2. BE ALERT! Events happen quickly at football games. Watch the director and be prepared to play the fight song after each touchdown or field goal. Do **NOT** play your instrument unless the whole band is playing.
3. Do not bring food to the band stand. You may get refreshments during third quarter, but you must eat away from the band stand.
4. Keep good care of your instrument. This will prevent it from being damaged.
5. Stay in your uniform at ALL times. Never place any part of your uniform or instrument on the ground.
6. Smoking, profanity and the consumption of alcohol are strictly forbidden at all times in accordance with School board policy. Violation of this will result in dismissal from band and disciplinary action by an administrator.
7. Never leave the band stand without permission from a director. (Third quarter is the only exception to this rule).
8. When you are in uniform, you represent the Band Department, Stow-Munroe Falls High School, and the community of Stow-Munroe Falls. Always leave a positive impression!

## **B. THIRD QUARTER PROCEDURE**

1. Make sure your instrument is secure and safe when leaving the band stand. **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR INSTRUMENT AT ALL TIMES!**
2. Do not bring food back to the band stand.
3. Do not leave the stadium.
4. Stay in uniform at all times!
5. Public display of affection will not be tolerated.
6. You are expected to be in your seat, ready to play, at the end of the third quarter.

### **VIOLATION OF THESE RULES WILL RESULT IN THE LOSS OF THIRD QUARTER PRIVILEGES.**

## **C. BUS CONDUCT**

1. All school bus rules apply and are in effect at all times when traveling with the band.
2. Be on time for departures. (A quote to remember, "To be on time, is to be early - to be late, is to be left). You will be left if you miss the departure time. Violation of this may result in suspension from further travels.
3. When you arrive back at the high school, leave the bus in better condition than you found it, clean and with the windows up. Please remember to thank your driver and chaperones!

## **D. INSTRUMENT TRANSPORTATION AND CARE**

1. Small instrument will go on the bus with the band member.
2. Instruments placed on the equipment bus should be cased properly and loaded/unloaded by the band member.
3. Make sure your instrument is properly identified.
4. Make sure you clean your instrument frequently. Make good use of cork grease, slide lubricant and valve oil.
5. Put your instrument away properly after each use: In case, shut and latched in storage slot.
6. If a school owned instrument is damaged due to student negligence, the student is financially responsible for the repair of the instrument. Normal maintenance will be handled through the Band Parents Association.

## **STUDENTS IN OTHER ACTIVITIES**

Students must submit **Transportation Release Form** anytime they are not traveling with the band on busses. **THIS RULE IS ABSOLUTE!** Students may NOT drive themselves to or from any performance. The only exception to this is rule is students performing at Memorial Day ceremonies. This is only permitted due to instructions we received from our central office administrators. Parents are the only people who are permitted to drive their student to/from an event after completion of Transportation Release Form.

# STUDENT DRIVING

1. Students are not permitted to drive themselves or others to any performance where a bus is provided. If a student cannot ride the bus, an adult must drive the student. A parent email or parent signed **\*Transportation Release Form** should be given to the director any time a student is not traveling with the group. Always inform your bus chaperone of any changes. \*Transportation Release Form available from the band web site.
2. Once a student arrives to a rehearsal or performance, they may not leave for any reason (food, change of clothes, etc...) without notifying a director.

# STOW-MUNROE FALLS HIGH SCHOOL BAND

## Quick Uniform Guide

### The Band Uniform is your Responsibility

Your band uniform cost about \$650 per student and proper care is essential. Students & parents are financially responsible for the issued uniform and raincoat. This includes damage due to accident, negligence or improper use. Lack of care in transportation and/or storage of uniforms can create mildew damage that will result in the replacement of the uniform. The uniform CAN ONLY BE DRY CLEANED BY MANHATTAN CLEANERS. During the season, the uniforms will be collected for two mandatory dry-cleanings.

### PARTS OF THE UNIFORM & PROPER CARE:

**HAT:** The hat should remain in one of two place at all times: On your head with the chin strap down or in the hat storage box. To clean, use a damp cloth, no chemicals. Hair must be tucked in and off the shoulders. Hat must be worn level on head and parallel to the ground.

**CAPE:** The cape must be wrinkle free at all times.

**CORDS:** Apply the cords before you button the epaulet. If lost, you must replace at your own expense.

**STOW BAND T-SHIRT:** Students will always wear the Stow Band T-Shirt under their uniforms. At **NO TIME** should a tank top or sleeveless shirt be worn under the uniform.

**TOP:** Top must be kept clean and wrinkle free at all times.

**PANTS:** PANTS SHOULD HANG ABOVE THE SHOES OR SPATS SO THE PANT LEGS ARE STRAIGHT. **If not, they must be hemmed.** Uniforms will be turned in to the uniform volunteers with a one week turn around for alterations to be made. The pants are to be hand sewn. **NO CUTTING** is PERMITTED! (volunteers will indicate the correct length. Also do not use glue, tape to hem the pants (or top).

\* **JEANS will not be worn under the uniform pants or anything with snaps or zippers. This will snag material.**

\* **SUSPENDERS MUST BE UP AT ALL TIMES!**

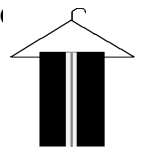
\* **PANTS SHOULD BE WORN AT THE LEVEL OF THE DIAPHRAGM** (bottom of the rib cage) Always fasten the pants with both hook and eye and the button (french fly)

**In the event of a muddy night. let the mud completely dry then use a Garment Brush to remove.**

**SPATS:** Snaps always go to the outside. They should always be clean and white. Use an multi-purpose cleaner to clean.

**BLACK SOCKS:** only Black Socks may be worn, NEVER WHITE.

**SHOES:** Back polishable shoes, NEVER TENNIS SHOES! Shoes should always be polished and shined. After a game, shoes should be transported in a bag outside the garment bag, or in "shoe" areas in new garment bags.



**GLOVES:** Gloves should be washed after each performance. You may always purchase on performance nights.

**RAINCOATS:** You are responsible for remembering your raincoat. Raincoats must be hung up and kept wrinkle free at all times.

### **TRANSPORTING YOUR UNIFORM:**

**You must always use a garment bag to carry your uniform and hat box for hat.** No exceptions, please! The uniform must be hung up properly. The Cape should be completely fastened to the top of the coat. Pants should be hung so the stripe is straight. If the uniform is wet, it must be immediately taken out of the garment bag at home to dry before placing back inside to transport.

*\*\* We may inspect your uniforms as you are leaving to make sure they are hung properly \*\**

### **UNIFORM LOST & FOUND FINE**

If a student leaves any part of their uniform at school after a performance, he/she shall be fined \$5.00 The fine must be paid before the item is released back to the student. Students may pickup left items from the uniform volunteers immediately before the next performance. Fines are due at the time you pickup your uniform part. All fines collected will be donated to the band activity account & will be used to help defray the costs of band functions.

### **IF YOU FORGET PART OF YOUR UNIFORM**

If a student forgets any part of their uniform, he/she may borrow a replacement from the Uniform volunteers. The student must however leave their cell phone as collateral. The phone will be returned when the uniform item is returned. This is only for students who leave uniform parts at home. You may not borrow uniform parts to avoid paying the Uniform Lost & Found Fine.

### **4TH OF JULY PARADE PERFORMANCE**

The Stow-Munroe Falls 4th of July Parade is a required activity for all students currently in the HS program, including incoming freshmen. Tubas and percussion students will be transported with their instruments to and from the parade. All other students must make arrangements to be dropped off at the Stow-Kent Plaza then picked up at Holy Family at the conclusion of the parade. The dress for the parade is as follows:

\* Maroon SMFHS Band T-Shirt      \* Khaki Shorts      \* White Socks      \* Tennis shoes

\*\*\*\*\* No hats or sunglasses are permitted in the parade. \*\*\*\*\*

### **PRIVATE LESSONS:**

The music department feels very strongly about the importance of private study as an integral part of developing the student's progress on their instrument. The one-on-one relationship available in a private lesson allows for more individual attention than is permitted in a large group rehearsal. Students can concentrate on their own unique playing problems, improving on areas in which they are weak, and progress at their own rate. This individualized instruction can provide a better chance to master your own instrument. If interested in private lessons, see the Directors for assistance. Remember private lessons may be counted towards practice and/or performance tapes.

## SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS:

The school provides use of “color” instruments at no charge to the student. All school owned instruments must be signed out by a director. Students must take excellent care of school owned instruments in their possession. It is the responsibility of the student to notify the director of any damage. Students will be held responsible for any damage from abuse or negligence. Cost of repairs will rest solely with the student and his/her parents. At the end of the year all instruments must be checked in.

## INSTRUMENT REQUIREMENTS:

Students must have instruments in good working condition. All woodwind players should always have at least 3 spare reeds. Brass students should have valve oil, rotor oil or slide cream. All slides should function on brass instruments without hesitation. If a student or parent would like to investigate purchasing a step-up instrument, please contact the directors and they can help guide you in your decision or visit the web site. Sometimes a better mouthpiece (for both brass and woodwinds) can make a large difference. If an instrument becomes damaged always take it to a music store with an “in house” repair shop such as Central Instrument Company, Woodsy's Music or Musicians Repair Service. These stores have the fastest service and generally do the best work.

## MARCHING BAND AWARDS:

**OUTSTANDING SECTION:** This award is presented to the section who has the highest testing average and exhibits a cooperative, positive attitude in performance and practice.

**LARRY MAY MOST INSPIRATION BAND AWARD:** Larry May was a band student in the 1970's who was always a positive motivational force. Larry was killed in an automobile accident shortly after graduation. In his memory, his parents donated this award which is presented each marching band season to an outstanding leader in the band. The award is open to any Junior or Senior & is voted on by the students.

## CONCERT BAND AWARDS:

**FRESHMAN “BAND” AWARD:** This award is presented to an outstanding freshman band member. It was first presented by Adam Witwer, a Senior in 1993. The BAND award is selected based on the the following criteria: Benevolence, Attitude, **Noteworthy** & Dependable. The award is chosen in consultation with previous recipients.

**JERRY BUSBY SOPHOMORE BAND AWARD:** Jerry Busby lived in Stow since 1959, was a U,S, Army veteran and had retired as a 6th grade teacher from Highland Elementary School in 1990. He volunteered his time helping the Bulldog Marching Band. This award is given in his memory to a Sophomore student who has demonstrated leadership in the band program.

**VARSITY LETTERS:** Varsity Letters are issued to any student who has participated in band for three years including other schools.

**SEMPER FIDELIS AWARD:** The Semper Fidelis Award is presented annually to a member who exhibits a drive & positive attitude in everything that they do- a student who is truly dependable and severs the marine motto “always faithful.” This award is not solely based on playing ability but the contribution one individual can make to the group as a leader and musician.

**PATRICK GILMORE AWARD:** The Gilmore award was created as a runner-up to the John Philip Sousa Award and recognizes a senior who displays excellent musicianship, dependability, loyalty, and cooperation.

**JOHN PHILIP SOUSA AWARD:** Since 1954 thousands of US High School have chosen the John Philip Sousa Award to honor their most deserving band students. The Sousa Award recognizes superior musicianship, dependability, loyalty, and cooperation, the highest qualities directors strive to develop in their students.

# JAZZ BAND AWARDS:

**LOUIS ARMSTRONG JAZZ AWARD:** This award recognizes an outstanding jazz performer and their additions to the Stow Jazz Program. It is voted on by jazz ensemble students and the director.

**WOODY HERMAN JAZZ AWARD:** This award is a runner-up to the Louis Armstrong Award and recognizes an outstanding jazz performer and their additions to the Stow Jazz Program. It is voted on by jazz ensemble students and the director.

## STUDENT CONDUCTOR PROGRAM

The student conductor program has been established to assist the band directors in leading the band at performances and practices. Applicants must be Sophomores, Juniors or Seniors and pass an audition.

### Responsibilities:

1. Learn & Test all the music on your own Instrument.
2. March Pregame with your squad.
3. Work with the squad leaders, section leaders & directors in teaching drill.
4. Demonstrate dedication, pride and enthusiasm in the SMFHS Band Program.

Auditions: Auditions will include the following:

- \* **Demonstrate conducting patterns** in 2/4, 3/4, 4/4,
- \* **Demonstrate the Vocal Commands** Attention & Parade Rest.
- \* **Conduct and Sing** the Star Spangled Banner
- \* **Demonstrate teaching and evaluating of marching style**
- \* **Pass an interview with the director.**

## BAND STUDENT CODE of CONDUCT

The Stow-Munroe Falls Band is known locally, statewide and nationally for its fine performance, discipline and attitude. As part of Stow Band Program, your actions both in and out of uniform are a direct reflection upon the band, school and community. Conduct yourself with dignity and pride at all times. The rules set forth in the school conduct code are in full effect throughout any performance or rehearsal.

*“Violation by a student of any one or more of the rules listed in the Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary actions(s), which may include: detentions, deprivation of privileges, performance suspensions, parental conferences, referral to legal authorities, suspension of driving privileges, emergency removal, disciplinary removal, suspension, expulsion and/or permanent exclusion. A student may be suspended pending the outcome of expulsion proceedings.” (Stow-Munroe Fall City School Student Code of Conduct)*

The band directors have designed this set of consequences to meet any discipline problems which may occur. Depending on the severity of the infraction any order or combination of consequences may apply. Consistent infractions will result in additional consequences including school given punishments

### Band Consequences

- |                                                                                                                                 |                                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 1. Verbal/Written Warning                                                                                                       | 10. Referral to Administration /Legal\ |
| 2. Loss of Free Time or Points Deducted                                                                                         | 11. <i>Suspension*</i>                 |
| 3. Disciplinary Isolation from Group                                                                                            | 12. <i>Expulsion*</i>                  |
| 4. Removal from Rehearsal/Performance                                                                                           | *School Consequences                   |
| 5. Conference                                                                                                                   |                                        |
| 6. Detention/Mandatory Band Service Time                                                                                        |                                        |
| 7. Loss of Leadership Status within band                                                                                        |                                        |
| 8. <b>Performance Suspension:</b> Student must attend the performance with the group but cannot participate in the performance. |                                        |

# **OTHER INFORMATION:**

## **School Address**

Stow-Munroe Falls High School  
3227 E. Graham Rd.  
Stow, OH 44224

## **SMF Band Parents Association**

P.O. Box 2454  
Stow, OH 44224

## **Phone Numbers:**

High School Main Office: 689-5300  
High School Band Office: 689-5220

## **E-Mail:**

Mr. Newman: [st\\_Newman@smfcfsd.org](mailto:st_Newman@smfcfsd.org)  
Mrs. Sandman: [st\\_Sandman@smfcfsd.org](mailto:st_Sandman@smfcfsd.org)  
Mr Lewis: [st\\_tlewis@smfcfsd.org](mailto:st_tlewis@smfcfsd.org)  
Ms. Dewitt: [st\\_kdewitt@smfcfsd.org](mailto:st_kdewitt@smfcfsd.org)

## **Sources of Band Information:**

**Stow-Munroe Falls Band Newsletter:** *<http://smfband.org>*

Published each month, September-June on the band website.  
Emails will be sent to students and parents when the Newsletter is posted.

**Stow-Munroe Falls Band Web Page:**

<http://smfband.org>

**Students and Parents will be contacted via:**

**ParentSquare - works best with the app**

**PLEASE REMEMBER:**

**ALL FORMS HAVE BEEN POSTED TO THE WEBSITE FOR EASY ACCESS**