

The FHS Band Participation Rules/Policies:

The following guidelines are an attempt to put some of our standing policies in writing so that everyone involved the band program (Marching Band, Concert Band, Jazz Band, and Winter Ensembles) will be keenly aware of them. These will be discussed before the season and made available to all parents.

1. All rehearsals and performances (including ALL required dates/times of band camp and after school rehearsals) are **mandatory for grading purposes**. Absences that are considered excused are: sickness/injury (with doctor's note), death in the family, religious observance. Should a circumstance arise that does not fall in to that category, it is your responsibility to communicate with Mr. Huckabee to work something out. Regardless of whether the absence is excused or unexcused, it is expected that the absence/tardiness be communicated in writing prior to the rehearsal/performance if at all possible. To communicate in writing, send an e-mail to Mr. Huckabee at buddy.huckabee@macon.k12.nc.us or at: franklinpantherband.com If you cannot communicate in advance via e-mail, it is expected that you call or text Mr. Huckabee at (828) 342-6613 as soon as possible to explain the situation. Remember: EVERY STUDENT is vital to the success of our team! We do not have "substitutions" for players!
2. Missing a portion of rehearsals or sectionals for work **DOES NOT** count as an excused absence. Make sure your employers have the schedule for marching band season in advance!
3. Should you miss **ANY** part of practice or a sectional before any game or competition, the director and/or staff members may deny your privilege to perform due to the absence if they feel you are unprepared for the performance for the safety of the student and the benefit of the program.
4. If you have unpaid obligations or still owe band fees before the first trip (away game or competition), you **WILL NOT** be allowed to participate in the performance. You may still be able to travel to assist the band in preparations for that performance at the discretion of the director or any staff member.
5. Students that may fall behind due to illness, family situations, medical situations, etc which is obviously beyond their control may need to be given alternate assignments and jobs within the program that would benefit and assist them in their recovery period.
6. Instructions given by any band staff are to be followed and never questioned or avoided
7. Instructions given by parent chaperones and bus drivers are to be followed and never questioned or avoided
8. Parents wishing to chaperone **ANY** trip should be active members of the booster club and/or approved by the director, and should be knowledgeable of the established guidelines and rules to travel; otherwise you may be denied the opportunity to chaperone.
9. Any student who is issued school equipment (including instruments or uniforms) will be responsible for the cost of repairs or replacement due to negligence or abuse
10. Students are to refrain from **any** PDA (Public Displays of Affection) on the duration of the trip. This is not a good image to give others on our program when you are "hugged up to your significant other." Not abiding by this policy could have you removed from all future trips or could affect the future trips of the entire band
11. All members are expected to ride to EVERY FUNCTION with the band on the bus. No exceptions unless they are being transported from another team or sport to our location by another teacher, parent, or coach
12. Members are expected to ride home with the group (on the bus) UNLESS a SIGNED ride home release form is provided by the parent. Text messages and phone calls will not be acceptable forms of "written documentation" to be dismissed. These MUST be turned in BEFORE you leave the event or venue, or the entire FHS band must wait on you to come back to take care of this. (These are available in the "Members only" section of the website)

13. Members are expected to follow the chain of command they are taught (i.e.-don't ask an upper staff member a question your section leader would know the answer to)
14. Members must be respectful of all staff members and chaperones at all times.
15. Members are expected to be where they are supposed to be at all times
16. Members are expected to be aware of meeting times and report EARLY to meeting locations.
17. Members will not be obnoxious and inconsiderate of others, especially on the bus
18. Members are expected to be considerate of others and should not apply sunscreen, lotions, perfumes etc. in closed spaces/rooms where others may be allergic or less tolerant
19. Absolutely NO FOOD, DRINKS, or GUM is allowed in the band room, chorus room, or auditorium unless given permission from the director or staff member.
20. Members will wear their uniform as instructed and directed and will remove jewelry when in uniform.
21. Members will check out/ check in all parts of the uniform before leaving and will take extra care of the uniform. Any damages will result in the repair/replacement of the uniform.
22. Members must know their obligations, the band calendar, and work hard to do their part
23. Members must carry their coordinate sheets, flip folders, and music (if applicable) to all rehearsals.
24. Members are responsible for their equipment, as well as the equipment used by others
25. Members will clean up after themselves and leave all areas cleaner than they found them (including the stands at home/away games and competitions)
26. At no point are members allowed to go anywhere by themselves. Members must travel in groups of two or more when attending away games or competitions.
27. Parents should let student leadership teams handle props, uniforms, and equipment unless they need the support / help. Students are trained in the correct manner to handle these issues. Only parents that have worked with the equipment and/or props and know how they function should assist in these situations. We appreciate any help, but do not want you to "hinder." ☺

During competitions, members will:

1. Sit together in as one band in the bleachers to watch other bands perform. Parents are permitted to sit with us in our section, but students are not allowed to join parents in another section
2. Understand that all students represent our school, county, and state with their actions.
3. Be polite to all other bands, applauding appropriately and saving polite discussion for after performances-- DO NOT TALK
4. Everything you do is ALWAYS "JUDGED"... you have your shirt on! Be smart!
5. Students are EXPECTED to stay for the **ENTIRE** competition (until after the awards) in order to be considered present and get full credit for that event. No student should leave ANY event early unless discussed first by Mr. Huckabee
6. Be proud of whatever happens! We need to understand that a judge's opinion is "just that...an opinion." We never "BOO" or give negativity to ANY result of ANY band

During Football Games, members will:

7. Refrain from moving up and down steps/bleachers to damage equipment and others.
8. Return from any break in the time given by Mr. Huckabee and/or staff
9. Be at the bus immediately after the game (if away) so attendance can be taken
10. Be respectful of other venues and students and not represent FHS in a negative manner
11. Students are EXPECTED to stay for the **ENTIRE** game unless given prior approval to leave by Mr. Huckabee

Please take in to consideration that not every scenario can be planned for or written down, and it is up to Mr. Huckabee how to approach the guidelines in those situations. Additionally all Macon County School policies apply to the band regardless of location. Failure to adhere to all of the policies above may result in termination from the band program and forfeiture of all related fees therein. If you have any questions or need further clarification on any of these guidelines, speak to Mr. Huckabee.