

## Student Handbook



Skyview High School Marching Hawks  
*Grit, Honor, and Execution with Exactness*

Justin White - Director  
School Year 2014 - 2015

Dear Students,

Welcome to the Skyview Marching Band! Participation in the band is a demanding yet very rewarding experience for any student. By sharing the common goals through superior musical and technical performances, working hard, and supporting one another, we can achieve TOGETHER what none of us can do ALONE. The Marching Hawks have had a successful program in the past, and I want to build on from what has been previously done. This year will be great opportunity to grow and mature not only as a musician or guard member, but also as a person. The more you involve yourself, the more you will receive. There is very little luck involved in success. Bring your best effort to each rehearsal or performance and expect the same from others. In doing so we will find 2015 - 2016 to be a most rewarding year. Attached to this is a list of some of our scheduled performances and football games, outfit information, fundraising, course overview, grading policy, and a parent response sheet.

Sincerely,

Justin White - Director of Bands

### **Mission Statement**

The mission of Skyview Band and Guard is to provide young adults an activity that instills; pride, teamwork, motivation, leadership, self-esteem, values and respect recognizing the individuality in talents and contributions of all members. These traits are then carried forward in all future endeavors. Each Band and Color Guard member is regarded as a key player in a highly respected musical unit, reflecting a credit upon the entire organization and school, which it represents.

### **Band Motto**

Grit, Honor, and Execution with Exactness

## **Description of Activities**

This is one of the hardest working groups in the school. The band is a very dedicated and visible part Skyview High School. The year begins with band camp in August. This is the time that you learn music fundamentals, marching fundamentals and start to learn the music and guard work for the show. This camp is required for all members. We rehearse during regular class time and on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. They perform at all home varsity football games. Each fall the band will travel regionally to a marching band competition. The Hawks also compete locally at Vallivue High School, Caldwell High School, and Boise State University. All of these competitions are in September or October.

## **How to Be - Expectations**

Be a HAWK!

Be On Time

Be Prepared

Be Musical

Be at Rehearsals

Be at Performances

**1. Be a Hawk** - It is expected that you will represent our district, school, band, and yourself in a positive way. Every action of yours directly affects people's perception of our school and band.

**2. Be On Time** - I really want to stress this area. Let's use our time wisely. Students are expected to show up on time by being five minutes early to rehearsals. During that five minute period, students will get everything ready so that we can start each rehearsal on time.

**3. Be Prepared** - Have everything that you need at every rehearsal, class time, and performance. This will help us to optimize our rehearsal time and look our best when we perform.

**4. Be Musical** - Our class is first and foremost a music/performance class. You are expected to know all of your music/routine and have it performance ready at the stated times. This will help our band be best that it can be.

**5. Be at Rehearsals** - Members are required to be at all scheduled rehearsals. This includes evening rehearsals, sectionals, and any extra rehearsals deemed necessary. If conflicts arise, please make certain you have contacted your section leader and the band director to communicate. During marching season, rehearsals are of the utmost importance. We can not succeed as a band when we have holes in the drill.

**6. Members are required to attend performances.** It takes a sizable commitment from students and parents to insure successful participation for each student. These performances are one of the main reasons why we practice in the first place. If a conflict arises please make sure that you communicate with your section leader and the band director. Missed performances will directly affect a student's grade.

### **Communication**

Communication is a very important and sometimes challenging task given the number of activities that students are involved in and the busy schedule that most people keep. Students are expected to communicate with section leaders and the band director if conflicts occur. Parents are encouraged to attend Booster meetings where they can find out how to get involved and what activities are planned. I will do my best to give all pertinent information to the student. I will also have information regularly updated on the schools band website [skyviewbands.com](http://skyviewbands.com). If you need answers to questions you feel have not been answered, please do not hesitate to ask.

### **School Equipment and Uniforms**

Skyview High School has a limited number of school instruments to make available to students in need. The school also owns marching percussion equipment, some marching brass, as well as color guard equipment. Musical equipment is available to students for a fee of \$50 per school year for each instrument. Members of the marching band are each issued a uniform. The care and

maintenance of school equipment is the responsibility of the students using the equipment. The usage fee pays for the cleaning of the instrument, replacement of drumheads, and some minor repair of school equipment. Should the school equipment become damaged because of student negligence, the cost of the repair will be the responsibility of the student.

### **Band Fees**

There is a \$200 band fee for all students. This helps with music, drill, equipment, instruments, and a variety of other things for the band.

### **Family Incentive Program**

(1st child \$200) (2nd child \$100) (3rd child free)

### **The Uniform**

Students need to return the uniform professionally cleaned at the end of the year. When in performance or preparing for performance, the uniform will be worn with pride. Students are responsible for the care and safe return of all uniform parts including: shoes, pants, jacket, gloves, hat, and plume. There will be times when the jackets will be allowed to be unzipped or taken off. Even during these times, the jacket must not touch the ground. These uniforms are expensive and must be treated properly at all times.

### **Travel**

We have several goals when traveling. First among those is to represent our school and the community of Nampa well. The actions taken by students while traveling as a part of the band will either reflect positively or negatively on our group, school, and community. Because of this, students are expected to go above and beyond so as to leave a good impression on all people that come into contact with us. This includes, bus drivers, hotel staff, and restaurant staff.

### **Band Trip Rules and Regulations**

Band students will have several opportunities to travel during the school year, often spending one or more nights away. The following rules reflect Skyview High

School high standards of student conduct and assure that our time will be a memorable learning experience for everyone involved:

- Students will follow all school rules. All rules of the Nampa School District and Skyview High School apply from the time the trip begins until we return to the school at the conclusion of the trip.
- Students will follow all rules and policies set by business and organizations that provide services for the trip. Students will be considerate, courteous and respectful at all times. This includes treating each other with respect, treating our hosts with respect and following the directions of all chaperones. Harassment of any kind will not be tolerated.
- Musical instruments will not be played in motel rooms.
- No candles or incense will be allowed.
- Personal stereo equipment may only be listened to through headphones.
- Students will be at all appointed places five minutes before the assigned time.
- Students will wear appropriate apparel for travel. Torn, ripped or dirty clothing is not acceptable at any time. Casual clothing for sight-seeing with inappropriate logos or pictures is not acceptable.
- Sexually-oriented actions are prohibited. (I.e. kissing, petting, making out, fondling, caressing, etc.)
- All smoking and chewing tobacco is prohibited.
- The sale of, use of, or possession of alcohol or drugs is prohibited.
- Students may not ride in any privately owned motorized vehicle unless accompanied by their parent with prior written approval.
- Any required medication should be prescribed by a doctor and properly labeled. Current information about medication must be on the Medical Release Form.
- Students must stay in rooms assigned. (No trading rooms.)
- Students must not use room phones inappropriately.
- Students may not make any charges to their motel room.
- Any damage or misappropriation of hotel or bus property will be charged to the students directly responsible. The rooms will be inspected by hotel

personnel and a Skyview staff person before departure. Participants are advised to review their rooms upon arrival and to report any evidence of damage immediately.

- Students will make certain that all items in the room at check-in are still there at checkout.
- Boys are never allowed in girls rooms, and girls are never allowed in boys rooms.
- Nightly curfew and room checks will be conducted by teacher/chaperones. Once the bed check has been made, you must remain in your room until the designated time for breakfast or the first event of the next day.
- All leisure time activities must be accomplished in groups of four or more. The teacher/ chaperones must always be told who is participating, where the group is going and at what time the group will return.
- Students are subject to the authority of the teacher, administrators, and chaperones at all times.
- Except for life-threatening emergencies, students will enter and exit through doorways.
- Students are responsible for their own equipment, music and instrument--packing, unpacking and portage.
- Shower Daily
- Smell Good
- Maintain Good Hygiene
- Communicate With Chaperones
- Honor Trip Rules
- Stay In Groups - Size to be determined by Director 10.
- Have Fun
- Enjoy Chaperones

**While on Hotel or Guest Property Students Will:**

1. Leave location better than when you found it
2. Never Be By Yourself
3. Be Respectful of School and Hotel Staff
4. Maintain a Clean Room

## **CONSEQUENCES OF AN INFRACTION OF THE ABOVE TRIP GUIDELINES:**

1. Warning from certified staff.
2. Isolation. Student will remain with certified staff or chaperone for a specified period of time, including attending attractions. Parents will be contracted.
3. Sent home. Student's parents will be contacted, and the student will be sent home C.O.D. On the next school day, the student will be referred to the Skyview Administration for assistance as outlined in the Skyview Student Handbook. Following the referral process a conference will be set up with the student and his/her parents to draw up conditions which must met if they are to remain in the Skyview Band Program.
4. Failure of this process will necessitate their immediate removal from band

### **Chaperone Responsibilities**

1. Have Fun
2. Enjoy Students
3. Relax
4. Communicate with Students
5. Conduct Room Checks
6. Be a Resource for Students
7. Know Where Students Are
8. Be Familiar With and Enforce Trip Rules

### **Student Responsibilities**

- Be On Time
- Be a Hawk
- Respect Others
- Dress Appropriately
- Keep Voices Down

### **Where do the fundraising dollars go?**

- Transportation
- Some Meals for the band
- Band Show Materials - Colorguard/Percussion/Band
- Instructional Staff
- Equipment Deemed Necessary for the Success of the Program

### **Fundraising**

The band program raises funds for various purposes during the school year. Various fundraising opportunities will present themselves to students during the year. Student involvement is necessary for fundraisers to be successful. Only students who participate in fundraisers will be given money to offset costs for trips. The Band Boosters and Mr. White offer many fundraising opportunities.

### **Band Boosters**

We see the band and color guard as an important aspect of the development of our community's youth. Being a support organization, we realize that there will be times and instances where the band director and students will need assistance. We recognize this and will help to the best of our abilities. We realize that the band director will make leadership decisions for the band and color guard and we offer our support to both students and teacher alike. We look forward to sharing opinions, ideas, and enthusiasm in our close relationship with the band director and students involved in the Band and Color Guard programs. Parents are invited to get involved in the band boosters. There is a place and level of involvement for each parent. Marching season is when volunteers are needed the most. My responsibility as a member of the Skyview High School Band Boosters is to support the programs of the Band and Color Guard both financially and physically. My financial support will be in the form of supporting fundraising efforts of the organization. I will provide physical support by giving of my time to ensure my child is where they need to be on time, assist in fundraising efforts of the group and attending performances. I will ensure that the band has the help necessary to carry out its mission. The groups that are supported by the Band Boosters are; Concert Band, Marching Band, Color Guard, Pep Band, and Jazz Band.

## What can I do to help?

1. Be a Board Member
2. Chaperone Trips
3. Build Props for Field
4. Help Load and Unload the Trailer at Competitions
5. Uniform Parent(s) - see that all students are measured and fitted in uniform for marching band given the uniform inventory on hand. Also oversee the use and care of the uniforms throughout the season to ensure the longest life possible for the garments.
6. Pit Crew - assist in getting the pit equipment and props on and off the field for games and contest. Ensure proper set up as directed by the band staff.
7. Attend Meetings - have a voice, offer an opinion, it is your money and your child.
8. Assist with or run a Fundraiser.

## Marching Band and Color Guard Course Overview

- Band Camp: Most important time of the year. If a student misses band camp they will not be on the field.
- Practice: All practices are mandatory and will result in a grade reduction if not attended.
- Night Rehearsals: Night rehearsals are from 6:00 - 9:00 throughout marching season.
- Performance Etiquette: Seating positions, and appearance and conduct are very important in a performance.
- Playing or performance tests: Playing or performance tests will happen from time to time to check the student's progress on their music or routine as well as checking for memorization. Our group is only as strong as its weakest member.
- Attitude and Self-Discipline: Play such an important role to our band and Color Guard, and play a major role in the success of the group.

## **General**

The success of the Band and Color Guard depends on you giving 100% every day. I expect this of you, and I expect this to be the best group it can be. Excellence comes from hard work and dedication. Listed are some guidelines that will help us reach our potential. Please read these guidelines carefully. To be a member of the Band or Color Guard, your complete understanding and acceptance of these policies are essential.

### **Rehearsal techniques and procedures**

An effective rehearsal requires total involvement, both mentally and physically. As a member of the Band and Color Guard, you should accept the fact that a great deal of hard work must take place every day. You are expected to accept any challenge and to give your all for the group each day. Your participation in rehearsals and at performances must be: 1) positive; 2) excited; 3) cheerful; 4) willing to please; 5) polite; 6) accepting of new ideas; 7) supportive. You are expected to use a good playing posture at all times during rehearsals. The beginning of class is a time to warm-up, and this time must not be taken lightly. USE IT WISELY! Take care of the school equipment. If it is not yours, do not touch it.

### **Attendance**

Absences and tardies have a strong impact on the grade because it is impossible for us to be our best as a group when people are absent or tardy. Since tardies are seldom necessary, you will risk the lowering of your grade if more than three occur. You must be in your seat when the bell rings with music, folder, pencil and any other required materials in hand. This also includes performances.

## **SHS Marching Band and Color Guard-EXPECTATIONS AND AGREEMENT!**

Band/Color Guard is like a group sport, in that each player depends on other players in order to win. In Band/Color Guard you are an important member of a disciplined team. In order to achieve our greatest potential, your cooperation is a must, not only at a performance but also on a daily basis in class. To build team spirit and help ensure a smooth running and problem free environment for every member of this team, each student will be expected to follow these rules:

- Be in class and ready with your instrument/flag when class starts.
- No talking at any time unless asked to do so or given permission.
- Remain in your seat unless otherwise instructed.
- Respect and be courteous to all people
- Respect other people's property
- Every student has the right to a problem free environment while in class or on trips. The Band will not tolerate a lack of discipline or any disorderly conduct. Misconduct will result in a meeting of all parties, including parents, to attempt to resolve the problem.
- The second offense will be referred to an administrator or counselor, who will schedule a meeting with the student and parents.

### **FOOTBALL GAME PROCEDURES**

1. Students need to report to the band room by 5:00 pm (4:00 pm for the first home game because of pictures) to get in uniform and begin warm-up procedures by 5:30 p.m.
2. All non-starting football players are expected to march the halftime show. Freshman /JV football players will perform with the band for the entire evening.
3. Varsity Cheerleaders will be expected to perform at half-time, but may perform in their cheerleading uniform. Freshman/JV cheerleaders will perform with the band for the entire evening.
4. We will sit together in our reserved section in full uniform. Non-band members will not be allowed to sit with the band. Have instruments handy at all times to play when touchdowns are scored, etc. Please do not leave the stands without permission.
5. Good bands look organized at all times! Your conduct on the bandstand during football games is important to the overall performance for the general public. Poor discipline presents a negative impression and good discipline presents a positive impression. You must always strive for the best discipline. A part of that discipline is showing school spirit and supporting

the athletic teams. Do NOT play your instrument unless the whole band is playing.

6. Do not eat while dressed in full uniform.

Both students and parents are a part of this team. Please read carefully, sign, and return this agreement to Mr. White. Thank you for support. We are looking forward to a great year.

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We have read and agree to abide by the rules of this agreement.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardians \_\_\_\_\_