

Nansemond River High School “Magnificent” Marching

Warriors Band Handbook 2014-2015



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Director of Bands
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DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Nansemond River High School Band Students, Parents, and Band Boosters,

Welcome to the award-winning Nansemond River High School Warrior Band family. Since its doors opened in 1990, the members of this band are trained to be ambassadors for the school, the community, and Suffolk Public Schools. The Marching Warriors are the Southside's "ORIGINAL" high-step style marching band. This band is the first high-step-style band in Virginia to have been named a Virginia Honor Band. On a national scale in 2010 and 2013, the Magnificent Marching Warriors was the only band from Virginia selected to represent our state in the 6/ABC Philadelphia Thanksgiving Day Parade. The band has won local parades such as the Peanut Fest and Suffolk Holiday parade numerous times in the past two decades. The band has also won first place in the Norfolk Grand Illumination Parade 2010 and 2012.

The 2014-2015 school years gives us the opportunity to carry on the outstanding tradition of excellence that is the trademark of the Nansemond River High School Band program. Congratulations on your decision to be a part of one of the finest organizations in Hampton Roads. The NRHS Band provides musical activities that encompass a wide scope of music genres and allows everyone a chance to reach their highest possible level of excellence.

The fall season emphasizes the excellence of our outstanding Marching Band. Our performances will include home football games as well as several marching competitions. These competitions will include festivals held in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Washington D.C. This year the MMW is proud to host the 23rd **Annual Warrior Band Day**.

Hard-working students, dedicated staff members, involved and active parents, and a supportive administration, and community all combine to make it possible for the Nansemond River Band program to offer an outstanding array of musical opportunities. Our students are expected to set and reach high goals for themselves and the program. The rewards of meeting those expectations are immeasurable in the development of our students as well-rounded human beings. Members of the Nansemond River High School Warrior Band will develop musically, emotionally, mentally, socially, and physically during their time in the program.

This handbook is intended to be used by students, parents, administrators, staff, and coaches as a convenient source of information regarding the various aspects of the Nansemond River Marching Band program. I have tried to cover every facet of the program. Students and parents must read this handbook carefully and sign and return the agreement forms located at the end of this handbook. These forms along with other necessary information must be turned in as soon as possible. Band members will be expected to understand and abide by all rules and regulations in this handbook. The contents of this handbook are subject to and under the policy and procedures of the Suffolk Public Schools. Remember, to have a great band, we must all maintain a strong commitment to excellence!

Sincerely,

Edward J. Woodis M.A.Ed.



INTRODUCTION

The Nansemond River High School Band is one of the finest marching bands in Virginia. The Director of Bands is Mr. Edward J. Woodis. With 18 years of experience as a music educator, Mr. Woodis has developed the band program into a nationally recognized program of excellence. In November of 2010 and 2013 the Magnificent Marching Warriors were invited to participate in the 6 ABC / IKEA Thanksgiving Day Parade in Philadelphia Parade. The band also won 1st Place in the Norfolk Grand Illumination Parade for 2010 and 2012. Mr. Woodis has been at Nansemond River for the past 14 years.

As one of the best marching bands in the state, the Magnificent Marching Warriors have a long and proud tradition of excellence. The “MMW Band” has performed at local, regional and national events. As a member of the marching band you will be a part of one of the most recognizable organizations at Nansemond River High School and it becomes your responsibility to represent your school and community at the highest standard.

This handbook is designed for three major purposes: First, the handbook is an instrument to assist band students/members in their day to day activities. Second, the handbook is used to clarify rules, situations, and activities that occur throughout the school year. Lastly, it promotes leadership, continuity, and uniformity within the band, which is necessary for the success of the band. Students, Parents, and Guardians should check this handbook anytime they are unsure of a procedure. If a necessary policy or procedure is not listed, please bring it to the attention of the Director of Bands. This handbook is required text. Do not lose it or misplace it. If you need a replacement copy, please contact Mr. Woodis. The handbook is also available via the internet at <http://blogs.spsk12.net/2265/marching-band/>

The handbook is updated annually. Make sure you have the latest issue.

The materials and policies contained within this handbook apply to all members of the marching band with auxiliaries, pep band, symphonic band, and jazz ensemble.

Extra copies of the policy forms are located at the end of this handbook. You will be given this handbook and all associated forms and instructed to return to Director of Bands with signatures from you and your Parent(s) on a specified date.

Please read this handbook in its entirety. You are responsible for knowing these policies and for understanding that you agree to follow them. This handbook is intended to make your band experience a positive and fulfilling one. Your support of the Band Program and knowledge of the rules are important to a successful school year.

This band student/member handbook is NEVER to be used as a substitute for Suffolk Public school policy.

**Tentative Schedule for the 2014-2015 School Year
Nansemond River High School Marching Warriors**

***** ALL Dates and times for performances and rehearsals are subject to change. *****

August 1 Tryouts for flags, majorettes, and dancers

August 4 ALL MEMBERS OLD and NEW must report for Summer Band Camp

August 5 – 21 All members must attend Summer Band Camp (Times TBD)

Aug 21 (Scrimmage game) vs Bayside @ 6 p.m.

Sept. 1 – Labor Day

Sept 2 – School Opens

Sept 2 - 4 – after school rehearsal 3:00 – 5:30 pm.

Sept 5 – Grassfield / away 7 pm

Sept 9 - 11 – after school rehearsal 3:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Sept 12 – Churchland / away 7 pm

Sept 16 – 18 after school rehearsal 3:00 – 5:30 p.m

Sept 21 - I Stand for the Band Competition High Point N.C. **(POSSIBLE OVERNIGHT TRIP)**

Sept 22 – Adrian Caroll Battle of the Bands Durham, NC.

Sept 23 – 25 after school rehearsal 3:00 – 5:30 p.m

Sept 26 – Indian River / home 7 p.m.

(MONDAY) Sept 29 – Oct 2 after school rehearsal 3:00 – 5:30 p.m

Oct 3 –Lakeland / away @7 pm.

Oct 4 – Peanut Fest Parade / **23rd ANNUAL NRHS WARRIOR BAND DAY**

(MONDAY) Oct 6, 7 and 9 - after school rehearsal 3:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Oct 8 – ½ day for students (early dismissal)

Oct 11 – Livingstone College Homecoming Parade and Band Competition Salisbury, N.C. **(POSSIBLE OVERNIGHT TRIP)**

(MONDAY) Oct 13 – 16. after school rehearsal 3:00 – 5:30 p.m

Oct 17 – Kings Fork / home @ 7 p.m.

Oct 18 – Driver Days Parade

(MONDAY) Oct 20 -23 - after school rehearsal 3:00 – 5:30 p.m

Oct 24 – Hickory / Homecoming Pep Rally and Game

Oct 25 – Chuckatuck Founders Day Parade

Oct 28 – 30 - after school rehearsal 3:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Oct 31 – Western Branch / home @ 7 p.m. (SENIOR NIGHT)

Nov 1 (Rain date for NR Band Day)

Nov 4 – No school for students

Nov 5 - 7 after school rehearsal 3:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Nov 8 Kings Fork Band Day

Nov 11 – School closed / Veteran’s Day

Nov 12 – 13 after school rehearsal 3:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Nov 14 – School closed / Parent-Teacher Conference (10 a.m. – 8 p.m.)

Nov 18 – 20 after school rehearsal 3:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Nov 22 Grand Illumination Parade, Norfolk

Nov 24 – All fruit orders must be turned in to the band office

Nov 26 – Early dismissal

Nov 27 - 28 Thanksgiving Break (School closed)

Dec 3 – 5 after school rehearsal 3:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Dec 12 – Fruit Delivery

Dec 13 Suffolk Holiday Parade @7 p.m.

Dec 13– District Band Auditions @ GHS

Dec 16 - Music Department Winter Holiday Concert

Dec 19 – Early dismissal (Winter Break begins)

End of Fall marching band activities

Dec 22 – Jan 2, 2015 Winter Break

April 6 - 10, 2015 Spring Break

Start Spring band activities

Mar 23 – Apr 3, 2015 – Spring Auxiliary Tryouts / veteran band member rehearsals

April 13, 2015 – May 1, 2015 – Spring mini Band Camp 3 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. (New member tryouts)

May 2, 2015 - 2nd Annual BandOps Hampton Roads Battle of the Bands HU Convocation Center

May 5 – 7, 2015 after school rehearsal 3:00 – 5:30 p.m

May 12 – 14 after school rehearsal 3 – 5:30 pm

May 16, 2015 Holland Founder’s Day Parade

May 19 and 21 after school rehearsal 3:00 – 5:30 p.m.

May 25, 2015 Memorial Day Parade / Band Banquet

June 5, 2015 Graduation

***** ALL dates and times for performances and rehearsals are subject to change. *****

***Students are required to attend all rehearsals and performances. Most Mondays and Fridays have been left open for incidental appointments such as doctor, dental, etc. A note from the doctor is required if a student is absent from rehearsal or performances.**

All date, events, and times are subject to change. For more information, visit the band blog <http://blogs.spsk12.net/2265/>

BAND MEMBERSHIP/AUDITION POLICY

If you are a rising 8th or 9th grade student and have successfully completed the band program at John Yeates Middle School, you are eligible to audition for the marching band. **For transfer students:** Audition dates for prospective high school band members are held during the spring in April and summer in August of each year. A written recommendation from your previous Band Director concerning musicianship and character will be acceptable in lieu of an audition. If circumstances prevent you (or any prospective/interested person) from auditioning at one of these times contact the Mr. Edward Woodis, Director of Bands at (757) 923-4101 or by e-mail at edwardwoodis@spsk12.net

Eighth graders who would like to participate and are zoned to attend Nansemond River High School may audition for the band. Recommendation from your previous Band Director is sufficient. Mr. Woodis will obtain a list of eighth grade students from the JYMS band director and students will receive an invitation to join. **Middle School students are not eligible to try out for drum major, majorette or dance squad.**

ALL STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN MARCHING BAND MUST COMPLETE A VHSL PHYSICAL. The cost of the physical is \$10. Contact the school at 757-923-4101 for dates and times for the physical.

All instrumentalists in the Marching Band Program must be enrolled in a music class at Nansemond River High School or John Yeates Middle School. Students participating in Project Lead the Way (PTLW) and ANY student not enrolled in a band class MUST maintain a level of proficiency to remain in the marching band. The instrumentalists and auxiliary will be evaluated on their academic standing, performance skills, interpersonal skills, and availability.

Audition materials can be mailed to prospective/interested members upon request. Visit our website at <http://blogs.spsk12.net/2265/> to download information.

BAND ENSEMBLES

Symphonic Band	All school year
Concert Band	All school year
Marching Band	April - December
Jazz Ensemble	All school year
Pep Band	December – February

Band Room GENERAL POLICIES

Classroom Procedures

1. Marching band is a co-curricular activity. Students in the intermediate and advanced band classes are required to participate in the marching.
2. A VHSL physical is required to try out for and participate in marching band.
3. The Band Office is the business office of the Director of Bands. Students are not allowed in the office without permission.
4. The office telephone is off limits to students except in the event of an emergency. Students must have the Director's permission and only for special circumstances.
5. The music rooms; band and practice rooms; should always be kept in a neat, organized manner.
 - a) Stands should be flat and flipped upside down.
 - b) All instruments are to be kept in the Storage Room and in your assigned space. Only musical instruments belong in the Storage Room. All other objects will be placed in front of the dry erase board and discarded after 4 days.
 - c) Music and Music Folders are to be left in the assigned shelf.
 - d) Percussion equipment should always be put away, covered, set aside, and handled with care.
6. Vandalism of instruments, equipment, and/or school property will not be tolerated. You and your Parent(s) will be financially responsible for any damages as a result of participating in horse playing or vandalism acts.

7. Gum chewing, candy eating, food, beverages, etc. are PROHIBITED in the band and practice rooms at all time.
8. This is your band room. It is everyone's responsibility to keep it clean. Place all trash in the trash cans, regardless of who created the mess.
9. Have appropriate equipment at all rehearsals and performances (instrument, music, rosin, reeds, oils, mutes, pencils, sticks, mallets, etc.)
 - a) All reed players should have several spare reeds. **A minimum of three should be in your case. Do not wait until you use your last reed to purchase a new one.**
 - b) Reeds, valve oil, etc., are available at your local music stores. A limited supply is available in the band office. Students can purchase these items before practice. Reed prices have gone up significantly. They are still cheaper to buy from the school than the music store.
 - Clarinet reeds \$2
 - A. sax reeds \$2
 - T. sax reeds \$2
 - B sax reeds \$3
 - B clarinet reeds \$3
 - Valve oil \$2
 - Cork grease \$1
- *** Instrument repairs are completed at Calamas music. A \$40 deposit is required before any instrument is sent to the shop for repair. The parent is responsible for the balance.
10. **Students should use their instruments only.** Any student found using someone else's instrument without permission will have consequences from the band director. Only percussionists are allowed to use the percussion equipment, but should have their own sticks or mallets for specific instruments. The jazz drummers are the only authorized users of the drum sets. Only the jazz pianist may use the piano only unless instructed by the Director of Bands.
11. Be in your seat (or spot) ready to begin **ON TIME. (If you are early you are on time, if you are on time you are LATE)**
12. All talking and playing **MUST STOP IMMEDIATELY** when any one steps onto the podium or in front of the group.
13. **No talking or playing** while Mr. Woodis or any staff member is giving instructions or directions.
14. Cell phones, ipods, or any other electronic media devices are not allowed during practice, rehearsals, sectionals, classes and performances. They must be turned off. If they disrupt the flow of instruction they will be confiscated and turned in to the main office in accordance with the Suffolk Public Schools student hand book policy. During Summer Band Camp the item will be held in the band office and returned to the parent.
15. Hats are not to be worn in the music room(s) during rehearsals. Textbooks and other school-related materials are not to be left in the band room.
16. Money or other valuables (except instruments) should not be left in the band room or practice room areas. Please safeguard your personal items.
17. Method books, tuners, audition music etc. must be checked out with Mr. Woodis.
18. There will be absolutely no **Public Displays of Affection (PDA)** in or around the band or practice rooms, on and off school ground, on the buses, at competitions, or at any time while wearing band uniform including band T-shirts, swish or while on field trips. **This is a band function, not a date.**
19. The use of alcohol, controlled substances, illegal drugs, or tobacco products is strictly prohibited.
20. The use of profanity is prohibited.
21. Only students for regularly scheduled classes, band members, and other specified staff or volunteers are allowed in the Band Room or practice rooms during rehearsals. You are not allowed to bring your siblings or friends into the band room during rehearsals or performances.
22. **Students will not be allowed to participate with the band while on out of school suspension.**
23. You must have a valid excuse with documentation whenever you return from an absence.
24. Nansemond River High School rules and regulations set forth by the Suffolk School Board and detailed in the Student Handbook apply to all band functions.
25. If you develop a physical condition at any time during the band season that may cause harm to the student or other students, **the band director must be notified immediately.** Details of the condition need **not** be revealed as per FERPA 1974.

REHEARSAL, PERFORMANCE, ATTENDANCE, TARDINESS AND CUTTING CLASS

All rehearsals and performances are mandatory. Marching band takes a serious commitment on your part. Every member must dedicate themselves to making the “Marching Warriors” the best band. During the Fall and Spring season, rehearsals are after school from 3 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Students must be able to stay for the entire rehearsal. Job conflicts will cause a student to be dismissed from the band. These incidents will be handled by the band director on a case by case basis. Thursday rehearsals or ANY rehearsal prior to a performance **is mandatory**. Only family emergencies with professional documentation (i.e. doctor’s note) will be accepted as an exception to this rule. **The student will not be allowed to perform with the band otherwise.**

If a band member is not allowed to perform for attendance violation or check-off failure, the student is not allowed to be seen at the game or performance venue. Students not performing may be assigned to help as a band manager. This assignment can be given by the MR WOODIS ONLY.

Performance quality of all ensembles is directly related to attendance. In addition a student’s performance status, positions of leadership and grades are also related to attendance. Absences and tardiness are either excused or unexcused. Unexcused absences and tardiness will adversely affect the factors stated above and may result in a grade lower than desired or dismissal from the band.

The following system is used to help distinguish between the two and to help maintain an accurate record of absences and tardiness.

- If you have an excused absence from school, the absence will be verified thru the Attendance Office.
- If you are absent from school, you are not allowed to attend band rehearsal.
- If you are tardy to an after school band rehearsal you must bring a note from a teacher or supervisor of the activity that caused you to be tardy.
- Continuous tardiness to rehearsals may result in further disciplinary actions in accordance with Suffolk Public School Student’s handbook guidance.

Excused absences must be verified with a note from your parent, with a telephone number, immediately upon return.

Reasons include:

1. Sickness/Injury
2. Death in the family
3. Pre-arranged conflicts must be cleared in advanced (at least 2 weeks) with band director.
4. Emergency doctor’s appointment

Unexcused absences include the following reasons:

1. Skipping
2. Forgetting
3. Employment conflict
4. Club meeting
5. Make-up test that could be scheduled at a different time
6. Trip made in disregard of band commitment
7. Any other conflict not cleared in advance with the band director.

Cutting class or Band Rehearsal is not acceptable and will be documented. After the first occurrence, the student will be expelled from the band program until the following school year. Students choosing to cut class will be disciplined in accordance with Suffolk Public School’s Student Handbook’s guidelines.

GRADING REQUIREMENTS

Participation 20% (Classroom)

- Student will receive a grade for each before and after school sectional and rehearsal during a grading period
- Student will be on task and focused during all rehearsals

- Student will have instrument, music, pencil, and supplies
- Student will be prepared to play their part successfully
- Student will make music and take notes as needed Student will be expected to demonstrate correct posture, hand position, embouchure, air production, articulation and attentiveness as monitored during rehearsals

Skills 40% (Test)

- Student will be expected to improve individual music skills
- Student individual skill development will be evaluated through taped music tests, individual playing tests, scale tests, and written tests.
- Student will be evaluated on improvement of ensemble skills during daily rehearsals
- Performances will be counted as a test grade

Fundamentals 10% (Homework)

- Students will be expected to improve performance fundamentals
- Students will be evaluated for improvement of music fundamentals through daily observation during the “basics” part of each rehearsal and during sectionals
- Student will be expected to develop a historical knowledge of the literature relative to his/her respective instrument
- Students are required to practice 30 minutes a day 6 days a week

Performance 30% (Quiz)

- Student will receive a grade for each performance during a grading period
- The number of performances will be determined by the performance calendar
- If public performances do not occur during a grading period, the performance grade will be based upon informal classroom performances determined by the Director of Bands.

MARCHING BAND

ALL marching band members must maintain a 2.0 GPA during the Fall and Spring marching band season. Students must have a current VHSL physical on file with the Athletics Director. You must be a student at Nansemond River High School or John Yeates Middle School. Those students who participate in marching band will be required to sign up for Spring and Summer band camp. All students participating in marching band are encouraged to also participate fully in symphonic or concert band. The entire marching band attends and performs half-time shows at all home football games and some away games throughout the football season. These performances normally take place every Friday night. Occasionally, we will have a short rehearsal prior to the game or departure. In addition to the above information the marching band performs at the following:

1. Marching band competitions
2. Marching festival
3. Parades as announced
4. Other announced performances

Chain of Command

- ❖ Director of Bands
- ❖ Faculty and Staff
- ❖ Drum Major(s)
- ❖ Section Leaders

What is a chain of command?

Chain of command is the line of authority within the student organization to maintain order and efficient operation. We ask that all band members, parents, and faculty/staff members to follow the chain of command. Our goal is for everyone to be efficient in accomplishing the bands goals while having fun which can be difficult in large organizations. . The chain of command is as follows:

THE DIRECTOR OF BANDS

The Director of Bands is ultimately responsible for everything that happens within the band. The band director runs the band, and works closely with students, parents, and school officials. He is responsible for helping the students

achieve the highest possible level of music excellence. The band director is a paid professional hired by Suffolk Public Schools as a teacher, instructor, and coach for the entire band program.

******Parents desiring to speak with the band director must make an appointment. Please allow up to 48 hours for scheduling. Conferences will not be held 24 hours prior to nor after a performance. Conferences will not be held during rehearsals.******

FACULTY AND STAFF

They are paid and/or volunteer professionals, guest's artist, coaches, instructors, and support personnel who are invited to assist in achieving our goal of excellence. They must have the respect of all students and parents. Students and parents should give them the same respect they would give any member of the Nansemond River High School Staff. If they are any problems with a faculty and/or staff members please feel free to address the problem directly with Mr. Woodis.

STUDENT LEADERS

The Director of Bands appoints the student leaders of the Nansemond River High School Band after auditions; interviews, teacher recommendations, and essays are received. All students are looked upon as potential future leaders from the time they enter the band. **These positions are full year appointments, even though some duties listed below may refer only to Marching Band.** All students appointed as a leader shall, in addition to their listed duties, strive to uphold the image and spirit of the band at all times. These appointments are to be considered an honor and a responsibility, not a privilege. Leaders should aid the band director in every way possible. Please be aware that all leaders are to be available to help the teacher at all camps for marching and Symphonic/Concert Band. **You are expected to keep the lines of communication open between each other and between students and the director at all times.**

Leadership positions include Drum Majors, Sergeant of Arms and Section Leader. Their duties are as follows:

Drum Major (a year round position)

Qualifications include: proficient on respected instrument; ability to read musical score; ability to properly warm up band; at least one year's experience in Nansemond River High School Marching Band.

1. Enforces rules, discipline and maintains order during marching rehearsals.
2. Command and conducts the band in field rehearsals and field performances.
3. Reports any problems to the band director
4. Oversees uniform inspections
5. Overseeing Section Leaders during marching rehearsals
6. Conducts and provides leadership for the marching and pep band.
7. Assist the band director in all ways possible.
8. Inspects band room regularly/daily to insure proper cleanliness.
9. Must report 30 minutes prior to the band's time of arrival.

Section Leader (a year round position) (what are your qualifications)

Qualifications include 1-year experience in Marching Band and proficient on instrument.

1. Enforces band rules and maintains order.
2. Directs after-school section rehearsal – *Sectionals must be approved by the band director*
3. Is responsible for section's marching and playing performance on the field and behavior in the stands.
4. Develop and maintain specified section
5. Inspects uniforms of section members.
6. Attends all meetings called by the Director of Bands, Drum Major(s) or Sergeant of Arms
7. Reports any problems to the Drum Major(s) or Sergeant of Arms.
8. Inspects band room regularly/daily to insure proper cleanliness.

BAND DUES

The “NRH Marching Warriors” requires each student to pay a marching band fee totaling \$ 250. This money is used to offset the cost of running a competitive marching band. This money is used to pay for a number of expenses such as transportation, one pair of gloves, windsuits, uniform cleaning, bottled water, Gatorade, etc. Parents will receive a parent participation intent form for fundraisers and financial planning. There are fees required for Spring and Summer band camps. **A nonrefundable registration fee of \$25 is due after passing auditions. The fee for Spring band camp is \$40. The fee for Summer Band camp is \$60.** Deadlines for fees are listed below. **IF NO DUES ARE PAID by the deadlines (Spring and / or Summer marching band) your child will not be allowed to march for the camp or the season. NO REFUNDS will be processed after September 4, 2014. NO EXCEPTIONS**

In according to Suffolk Public Schools policy, in the event of a returned check, the school will not accept additional checks until the returned check has been resolved. A notification letter will also be mailed home. Payments may be made to the school by cash or money order. If payment is not received within 30 days of the notification letter, additional action will be required. In accordance with state law, returned checks will be processed for collection and allowable bank and collection agency fees will be charged. **THERE IS A \$15.00 SERVICE CHARGE ON ALL RETURNED CHECKS.**

Band Fees and Deadlines

Registration fee (All band members)	\$25	DEADLINE – UPON PASSING AUDITION
Spring Band Dues (New members ONLY)	\$40	DEADLINE – APRIL 21, 2014
Summer Band Dues (All band members)	\$60	DEADLINE – AUGUST 4, 2014
Band Dues (includes wind suit)	\$225	DEADLINE – SEPTEMBER 4, 2014
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>\$350</u>	

****Auxiliary uniform fee is \$150 in addition to the band dues.**

USE AND CARE OF MUSIC

Students are required to maintain a 1” 3 ring loose leaf binder in which to store their music copies. This notebook will be collected and graded at the end of each nine week grading period. It is the individual student’s responsibility to maintain their binder in good condition. We ask the students to follow the following rules:

- Do not fold, tear or otherwise mutilate music
- Use only pencil when marking music. Be neat when marking music, and make only those marks that are absolutely necessary. Make sure to ERASE all markings when the music is turned in.
- Replacement copies of music cost \$.25
- Do not put folders and/or music in the instrument case.
- Do not place stickers or other decorations on school owned music folders.
- You must maintain a binder with all of your music.

INSPECTIONS

Inspections will be performed before a performance. Inspections will include uniforms to assure students are properly dressed with all accessories; for example gloves, spats, reeds. Auxiliaries will be inspected for appropriate uniformed “pony tailed” hairstyles, appropriate uniform fitting, and cleanliness. Instruments, reeds and mouthpieces will be checked.

INSTRUMENT AND EQUIPMENT

Instrument and equipment should be kept in the appropriate areas. If it is found that instruments and equipment are not properly stored, disciplinary actions may be taken.

STORAGE ROOM POLICY

Students are assigned storage spaces. The storage room should only be used for placing instruments and appropriate band music. The storage room will remain open at all times, unless otherwise in use with the prior approval of the Band Director. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action(s).

PERSONAL INSTRUMENTS

Nansemond River High School nor the Nansemond River High School Band Booster Association assumes any responsibility for instruments owned by individual students. (Accidents and acts of nature will be handled on a case by case basis.) You are encouraged to have your own instrument insured against theft, damage, etc, through your family's homeowner's or tenant's insurance policy. It is also advisable to keep a record of the make and serial number of the instrument in your family records. All students are expected to maintain their own instruments. You are encouraged to upgrade the quality of your instrument from that used by your student as a beginner/middle school.

SCHOOL ISSUED INSTRUMENTS

If you use a school owned instrument, you are responsible for its care and minor maintenance. A normal amount of wear will be allowed for, but damage resulting from mistreatment or carelessness will be charged to the student.

CHECK OFFS

Check-offs are periodic inspections to ensure all band members are maintaining the number one objective of the band which is a first class performance. Section Leader will check off their sections on Tuesdays, if a member does not check off they will have another opportunity to check off for the Council of Peers on Wednesday. A FINAL check off will be conducted on Thursdays by the Director of Bands for anyone who has yet checked off by this point. **Anyone who does not check off by Thursday will not participate in that Friday or Saturday performances but, are still required to attend. Students participating in Project Lead the Way are expected to maintain the same level of musicianship as students enrolled in a band class.**

CHALLENGE SYSTEM

Challenges take place throughout the year based on musicianship and showmanship. Members(s) may challenge for higher ranking, field placement or exchange of a school owned instruments. Challenges can only be permitted by the band director. See the band director for more details on challenges. Mr. Woodis has final ruling on all challenges.

AUXILIARIES

Flag Squad - Members of the flag squad are selected by an auditions held during the Spring and Summer Band Camp. Prior to auditions, a clinic is held after school at Nansemond River to teach basic techniques of flag twirling. This clinic is recommended for all students auditioning for a position with the flag squad. Registration form, parental permission form, emergency form and expectations and consequences forms are required. Each member must follow all rules and regulations of the Nansemond River Band.

Dancers - Members of the dance team are selected by an audition held during Spring and Summer Band Camp. Prior to auditions, a clinic is held after school at Nansemond River to teach basic dance routine. This clinic is recommended for all students auditioning for a position with the dance team. Registration form, parental permission form, emergency form and expectations and consequences forms are required. Each member must follow all rules and regulations of the Nansemond River Band.

Majorettes - Members of the majorette team are selected by an audition held during Spring and Summer Band camp. Prior to auditions, a clinic is held after school at Nansemond River to teach basic techniques of baton twirling. This clinic is recommended for all students auditioning for a position with the majorette squad. Registration form, parental permission form, emergency form and expectations and consequences forms are required. Each member must follow all rules and regulations of the Nansemond River Band.

Summer BAND CAMP

Attendance during Summer band camp is MANDATORY. Many families choose to vacation during the month of August. Summer band camp is held in August of each school year. Students who miss more than 3 days of Summer band camp must check off on all music and marching choreography before being allowed to perform. **Spring band camp** is conducted for 8 days in April beginning after the Spring Break. It is an open instrumentalist audition for rising 8th through 12th graders desiring membership into the Band. Summer Camp is conducted for approximately four weeks in August beginning the first Monday of the month. Summer band camp is an intense four weeks training session on the campus of Nansemond River High School. We learn marching basics, how to play while marching, marching band choreography, and creation of precision drill. It will be difficult, and challenging, but you will make many new friends working beside you. Students will not be allowed to leave the school grounds for lunch. There will be some days when we will have evening rehearsals to accommodate teachers returning, freshmen orientation and open house. Please refer to the camp schedule for the correct times. You will need cool clothes to practice in, a hat, sunglasses, and a cooler of water or Gatorade. Please avoid beverages such as sodas, milk products, caffeine, and fruit juices. **All members must adhere to Suffolk Public Schools Student Handbooks dress code. Tight fitting or suggestive clothing will not be tolerated.** You will want to bring a snack as well as a lunch also. Breakfast before camp is very important and again you should avoid sodas.

BAND REHEARSAL UNIFORM

Students must dress for aerobic style exercise. No spandex or tight fitting shorts above the finger tips allowed. T-Shirts must have sleeves and must be worn at ALL times while in rehearsal. Boys and Girls must wear a t-shirt with sleeves and no suggestive clothing. Students wearing inappropriate clothing will be asked to change or sent home. Repeated occurrences may result in dismissal for a period of time determined by the band director.

BAND CAMP SCHEDULES

Spring and Summer Band Camp schedules are posted on Band page on the band blog at <http://blogs.spsk12.net/2265/>

MARCHING BAND REHEARSALS and PERFORMANCES DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

Band rehearsals usually held Tuesday through Thursday 3:15 - 6:30 p.m.
Football Games are Fridays at 7:00 p.m., members must arrive by 5:30p.m.
Competitions, parades and festivals vary in times. (See Calendar of Events)

BAND UNIFORMS

Each member is responsible for caring for his/her uniform. All official uniforms will be stored in the uniform room. No uniform or part of it will be taken home at any time. Uniforms will be sent for cleaning directly from the school. Auxiliary will be required to purchase an additional uniform that the student must maintain in a clean and performance ready condition. ****Auxiliary uniform fee is \$150 in addition to the band dues.**

Nansemond River Marching Warrior Uniform Includes:

A hat, plume, spats, coat, trousers, suspenders (if needed), red and white flash gloves, black shorts, current band t-shirt for the school year, black socks, band sweat suits (swish).

The following rules also apply to all unless noted:

- ❖ No jewelry (including ear, eyebrows and nose rings) is allowed to be worn by any band member while in uniform.
- ❖ Only clear finger nail polish and **no** French nail tips can be worn while in uniform
- ❖ **ONLY black** skull caps, head gear, scarves, or headdresses are allowed to be worn.
- ❖ Black rubber bands or head scrunches are allowed to tie back the hair
- ❖ **All hair is to be worn under the hat and must be your natural hair color. Brightly dyed hair is prohibited.** This includes male and female instrumentalists.

- ❖ All students will pick up their uniform in a quiet and orderly fashion. At the conclusion of the performance, band members will return their uniforms to the uniform room properly placed on the numbered hanger.

For Auxiliary

Flags - Uniform Requirements:

- ❖ All hair should be a UNIFORMED “pony tailed” hairstyle.
- ❖ **All hair must be a natural hair color. Brightly dyed hair is prohibited.**
- ❖ Hat, plume, boots w/tassels, dress, jacket, white sure-grip gloves, neutral skin tone or black stockings (consult with Section Leader on color of hose prior to performance) and sweat suits.

Majorettes - Uniform Requirements:

- ❖ All hair should be a UNIFORMED “pony tailed” hairstyle.
- ❖ **All hair must be a natural hair color. Brightly dyed hair is prohibited.**
- ❖ Tiara, uniform, and arm gauntlets, cape, boots with tassel, neutral skin tone stockings and sweat suits.

Dancers - Uniform Requirements:

- ❖ All hair should be a UNIFORMED “pony tailed” hairstyle.
- ❖ **All hair must be a natural hair color. Brightly dyed hair is prohibited.**
- ❖ Featured uniforms, cape, character shoes, and all accessories as needed for performance.

Uniformity is a requirement and excuses will not be accepted. Any member failing to adhere to this rule will not perform. Flag girls should have one person designated to make tassels, and purchase accessories such as stockings. Uniform accessories can be purchased through NRHS Director of Bands. An itemized list of the uniform materials will be given prior to the start of summer band camp.

BAND AWARDS:

Band awards are given out at the annual band picnic or banquet each spring. Awards are given to all graduating seniors and other specific band member. Recipients of the awards are selected by their peers and the Director of Bands.

Service Awards

Spring Band	Certificate of Participation
1 year	Certificate of Participation and Silver medal
2 years	Certificate of Participation and Gold medal
3 years	Certificate of Participation and Trophy
4 years	Certificate of Participation and Trophy
5 years	Certificate of Participation and Trophy

Graduating Senior

Drum Major

Section Leader

Trophies are awarded based on evaluation throughout the year for the following

Band Parent of the Year	Best Marcher
Best Rookie	Best Attitude
Best Section	Outstanding Leadership

Letterman Awards

YEAR 2 (TWO CONSECUTIVE FALL, WINTER, AND SPRING SEASONS)

Letterman Awards Requirements

- 75% Attendance
- 100% participation in competitions
- Good Standing – defined as no more than
 - 2 unexcused absences
 - 4 excused absences

TRAVEL

Rules

1. All students must ride the bus together as a band.
2. Silent bus is always in effect while traveling.
3. Bus and room assignments will be designated before trips
4. Bus captains (usually the drum majors) are assigned to each bus
5. No one loads the bus until roll is checked in the band room and announcements are made.
6. No one may change buses or rooms without permission from the Director. Bus captain and chaperones must be informed of any such change prior to departure.
7. Students must sit with other students of the same sex on the bus during night travel. Buses may be entirely one gender or may be split between the front and back of the bus. When traveling at night boys will be to the front, and girls to the back. There will be chaperones sectioning off the two sections as well as a chaperone in the front and in the back.
8. All equipment that is loaded on buses must be loaded and unloaded by the same person(s).
9. At the performance, buses will not unload without the permission of the Director.
10. All band members will ride the bus to and from events.

Overnight field trips shall include male and female chaperones if both male and female students are involved. All overnight trips shall include at least two chaperones regardless of the number of students participating (Issued January 12, 1995 Legal Authority-School Board Policy 8-26.1). On overnight trips, band chaperones are assigned student rooms to monitor and supervise, which includes inspection of rooms for broken and damaged articles, the care and security of the students in these room, maintaining order, curfews, and promptness of schedules. Students will have a room captain in each room. The room captain and other students will be expected to keep the room neat and clean. Students must follow curfew set by the Director of Bands, and be polite and respectful to each other, chaperones, hotel staff and hotel guests.

CHAPERONES

Chaperones will be selected by the Director of Bands. Chaperones are responsible to the Director or a designated parent with experience working with the band. The designated parent will be clearly identified before any field trip if necessary. Chaperones will be positioned on each bus to assist in maintaining order throughout the trip with special instructions given by the Director of Bands. Chaperones must be restricted to adults as space is very limited on the buses. ***No other children not considered band members may accompany their parents on the busses.*** **Parents are required to NOT chaperone or supervise a group of students containing their own child.**

The rules for Chaperones will be as follows:

1. All chaperones, volunteers, concession stand workers and helpers 21 yrs. and older who are not students in the Suffolk Public Schools system must be approved by the Suffolk Public Schools Volunteer program before you can participate in band booster activities.
2. No smoking or alcohol use is permitted while chaperoning.
3. The ratios are Grades K through 5 1:10; and Grades 6-12 1:15
4. Arrive one hour before the band members arrive for proper assignment of duties and responsibilities.
5. Sign in and receive appropriate direction and/or documentation from the Band Director.
6. (2) Supervise the band room area before, during and after performances.
7. (6) Walk with the band to and from the football stadium for performances.
8. Carry capes, coats, and student supplies when needed.
9. Rope off and cover the bleacher areas for band seating.
11. Be available to offer assistance to band members in need.
12. Spot check uniforms, shoes, gloves, etc.
13. Assist members with costumes, makeup, hair, etc. (if applicable)
14. Ensure that band members are not talking to persons outside of the band and spectators do not distract the students while performing with the band. Students must remain focused.
15. Ride on the buses for competitions and performances. Silent bus is always in effect.
16. Maintain order during rest stops, at eating establishments, crossing heavy traffic areas, etc.
17. Assist with snacks, and drinks on traveling performances.
18. Supervise dressing rooms to maintain order and respectability at contests and performances.
19. Cheer, support and/or encourage positive behavior with all students.
20. Chaperones are assigned to the front, middle, and back of the bus.
21. If on the bus, a chaperone is charged with assisting the Director of Bands in the care of the students from the time they board a bus at the school until they return to the school.

22. Upon arrival at the destination, students are to stay on the bus until they are told to unload by the Band Director.
23. If uniforms are partially removed students should put on the full uniform on 15-20 minutes before arrival.
24. During parades, chaperones are to fall back when the band nears the judge's stand. When the band is on the field chaperones should be off the field and on the sideline and/or track out of the view of judges or spectators. At concerts, when assistance is needed in set up chaperones are to remain behind the curtains until the curtain is closed.
25. Chaperones and designated staff are the only persons allowed to sit with the band in their designated area. This is an appearance as well as a safety rule.
26. If applicable, chaperones are to secure all cooler before the band returns to designated areas. All chaperones should wait until direction is given from the Director of Bands before passing out the appropriate water, snacks, or any other provisions. Members are not allowed any other food or drink other than what which has been designated as appropriate by the Director of Bands. Candy, including peppermints is prohibited. Any adult found providing members with candy will be held liable if the student(s) health or instrument is affected.
27. Chaperones are not allowed to give students any prescription or over the counter medication.

A good chaperone:

- Supports the Director of Bands and follows the direction and example of the teacher when dealing with students.
- Has the welfare of the entire band in mind at all times.
- Is supportive of all students.
- Is encouraging and complimentary.
- Treats students as young adults and has respect for the students and other chaperones.
- Is kind, likable, and fun to be around.
- Is hardworking.
- Is a good example for other chaperones to follow.
- Knows the rules and will ask for clarity when unsure.

FUNDRAISERS

Fundraisers will be performed throughout the year. **ALL BAND STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO PARTICPATE IN OUR FRUIT SALE FUNDRAISER.** Fundraisers for the band club account will be carried under the responsibility of the band director. The two main fundraisers each year are the Annual Band Day and the Band Fruit Sale.

NRHS Instrumental Musicians Blog

This is the official internet website of the Nansemond River Instrumental Music Program. In this media center, you will receive a schedule of all rehearsals and performances for a three month period. It is recommended that students and parents subscribe to the RSS feed on the blog.

For any updated information on all events and rehearsal always check the blog for event sheets <http://blogs.spsk12.net/2265/>

RULES OF CONDUCT

Membership in the Nansemond River "Marching Warriors" is a privilege, not a right. As proud members of this organization, band members agree to the following basic tenets of memberships.

1. I will obey all Suffolk Public School District Student's Code of Conduct
2. I will carry out the instructions of the Director of Bands, Drum Major(s), Section Leaders, Faculty/Staff, Chaperones, and Bus Drivers.
3. I will treat fellow band members with respect and friendship.
4. I will show respect and demonstrate sportsmanlike conduct to visiting teams and bands. Competition is encouraged, but not to the point of resentment or discourteous conduct.
5. I will take pride in this band, striving to perform at the highest level at all times, striving to improve my musical abilities throughout the year, and striving to never display a negative attitude.
6. I will arrive on time and work hard at all rehearsals, talking only when necessary.

7. I will behave in a professional manner while in uniform at all times. This includes remaining in my seat at games, never wearing any extraneous apparel with my uniform, never using profane language.
8. I will take proper care of my equipment and uniform.
9. I will adhere to the band handbook policy on cell phone use (see pg 7 #14).
10. I will adhere to the attendance policy of the Nansemond River Marching Warrior Band. I will not miss rehearsals or performances unless it is an emergency or preapproved absence from the band director. I will also return with proper documentation (medical doctor's note, or other substantial documentation).
11. I will ALWAYS conduct myself in a way that CREDITS ME and my BAND.
12. I will ALWAYS conduct myself with pride and dignity.
13. I will adhere to the Suffolk Public School discipline policy at all times.

Band members agree to this code of conduct, as well as the Nansemond River High School discipline policy, as well as the Suffolk Public School Policy handbook. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary actions as well as eventual expulsion from the band.



Perseverance
Respect
Integrity
Discipline
Excellence

What is HAZING? Hazing is defined as "the practice of playing unpleasant tricks on someone or forcing someone to do unpleasant things ◇ *Hazing* is done as part of a ritual that people (such as college students) must go through before they are allowed to become members of a group (such as a fraternity)." (Merriam - Webster, 2013).

Recently, issues of hazing are the current topic in organizations such as marching bands.

HAZING WILL NOT BE TOLERATED IN THE NANSEMOND RIVER HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND.

Any person or group suspected of hazing or bullying will be reported to school administration. Students are strongly encouraged to report any suspected incidents of hazing or bullying to Mr. Woodis IMMEDIATELY. The resulting punishment of any person or group suspected of hazing by the band director will be immediate dismissal from the marching band pending an investigation by administration. A report will be filed with the Principal and school resource officer. An investigation will be conducted for the presence of any criminal activity.

Nansemond River High School
“Magnificent Marching Warrior Band”
Band motto: EXCELLENCE IS THE STANDARD NOT THE GOAL

Why do I have to run?

The main reason for running is physical conditioning. However, running may be used as a disciplinary tool.

Examples of Why You May Have To Run

1. Talking during rehearsals
2. Tardiness
3. Defiant or disrespectful behavior
4. Leaving an instrument unattended
5. Distracting behavior
6. Leaving assigned seat untidy (stand extended, trash, folders behind, etc.)
7. Leaving assigned cubby untidy
8. Leaving a sectional rehearsal without the permission of the Section Leader or Director of Bands
9. Disrupting sectionals or band rehearsal
10. Blurting out during general rehearsal or sectionals
11. Not being prepared
12. Jeering or taunting other students during rehearsals, sectionals or performances
13. Talking to anyone outside of the band during rehearsals, sectionals or performances
14. Moving while at attention or parade rest or stadium seating
15. Eating or drinking in the band room and/or while in uniform
16. Talking during silent bus to or from a performance
17. Being out of assigned seat during rehearsal
18. Not practicing the music or routine

Immediate and / or Permanent Dismissal from the Band

1. Fighting, bullying, and / or hazing.
2. Use of cigarettes, alcohol or any illegal or controlled substance
3. Profane verbal abuse towards fellow band members Director of Bands, Drum Major(s), Section Leader(s), Chaperone(s), Faculty/Staff, or Bus Driver(s).
4. Acting or behaving in a disgraceful manner while in uniform
5. Intentional destruction of school property including, but not limited to: instruments, uniforms, percussion and/or auxiliary equipment
6. Theft of any kind
7. Being caught in the act of illicit sexual behavior
8. Any behavior or actions intended to tarnish or disgrace the image of the NRHS Band Program while in or out of uniform
9. Any student that is suspended will not be permitted to return to the band program until the following school year or at the band director's discretion. Any student expelled from school will not be allowed to participate in band.

***Band is for the extra-ordinary
Student!!***

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR NEW BAND MEMBERS

1. What is the attendance policy for band camp?

Because Band Camp only runs for limited time, every day contains large amounts of instructions and rehearsals – a day's absence, therefore, will have a significant impact on the individual student's contribution to the show and also significantly affects the entire band's progress. The policy therefore calls for 100% attendance if at all possible. Missing more than 5 days of summer band camp will make a student ineligible to participate for the Fall Season.

2. What if a schedule conflict does arise?

Please attempt to resolve any such conflict in favor of the published Band Camp schedule. If unable to do so please fill out a conflict form and communicate the conflict to the Director of Bands at the earliest possible date.

3. What are "sectionals"?

Sectionals are sessions of instruction and rehearsal that are focused on your student marcher's section of the Band (percussion, low brass, flutes, trumpets, saxophones, etc.). These are scheduled rehearsals provide an opportunity for additional practice times for both music and marching.

4. Where is Band Camp held?

Band Camp activities are held Nansmond River High School. Indoor music rehearsal will be held in the band room, but rehearsal will continue to be held on the practice field located on campus. Occasionally rehearsals will be held in the stadium. Specific location information will be announced to students as required.

5. What will student marchers need for Band Camp?

Hat

Personal water bottle

Sunscreen lotion

Light, loose –fitting clothing appropriate for band practice.

** Shirts must have sleeves.

Sneakers and socks (no flip flops or sandals)

Instrument, flags, batons or any other equipment needed

Pen/pencil

A good breakfast

Snacks and a beverage for rehydration. (Water and rehydration beverages will be provided for breaks while working outside.)

A GREAT ATTITUDE

6. What is provided to student marchers for Band Camp?

Instrumental sheet music, water, Gatorade (when available), instruction, guidance, encouragement, life enhancing experiences

7. What if the temperature gets very hot during Band Camp?

While July/August temperatures can be very hot in our area; student's safety is paramount to all of us. Every effort will be made to conduct rehearsals on the practice field whenever possible. Our Director however, refers daily to weather forecasts and will move rehearsal indoors when temperatures and /or heat indexes exceed 99 degrees.

8. When Band Camp is over, when will student marchers have rehearsals?

Once Band Camp is over for the summer and school has begun, rehearsals are typically held daily during school hours and after school. (Tuesday through Friday, 2:30pm-5:30pm)

9. What is the schedule for Band Camp?

The specific daily schedule is located on the Band blog. In general Band Camp runs from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM daily. The times are subject to change based on the provisions of the school division's transportation department.

10. What should I, as a parent, expect my child to experience during Band Camp?

Band camp is a rigorous, stimulating, tiring, and exhilarating experience for the student marcher and for their Parents. Your child will get very tired and will need to get a good amount of rest in order to keep up. Likewise, getting a good balanced meal will fuel their "marching machines" during camp. There may be some occasional frustrations when fatigue hits-they may question whether they can do it or whether the work is worthwhile. Your parental encouragement can significantly assist the child as they go through their daily schedule. Their effort is certainly "worth it" and will pay off in immeasurable ways!

11. Will transportation be available?

Yes, there will be an activity bus available to transport your child to and from school each day. After school band practice will be from 3 pm – 6:30 p.m. Mon – Thurs.

12. Can I participate in other activities?

Yes, *but you must be committed to giving 100% to the band first.*

13. Can I march if I am suspended or given detention?

No. If a student is suspended from school he/she cannot participate in band while on suspension. If a student is suspended more than once a Parent/Teacher conference is required before the student will be allowed to continue participating with the Band. If a Student is given detention or suspension he/she will not be able to participate with the Band in the activities during the weekend following the detention or suspension?



*Excellence is
the standard
Not the Goal!*

**BAND HANDBOOK
RECEIPT
2014-2015**

RETURN TO THE DIRECTOR OF BANDS BY SEPTEMBER 5

We have received a copy of the band hand book. My signature acknowledges my responsibility to read, understand and abide by the policies set forth in this handbook by the Nansemond River High School Band Program.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Please Print Name

Student/Member Signature

Date

Please Print Name

Video/Picture Release Form

As a member of the Band Program, there are occurrences where Students/Members will be photographed or put on video for various functions. These pictures or videos will be used to help promote the Band through various forms of media; our web site, presentations, or press releases. By signing below, both the Parent/Guardian and the Student/Member understand these purposes and agree to allow pictures or videos of them to be used to help promote our program.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Please Print Name

Student/Member Signature

Date

Please Print Name

Uniforms

The Uniform issued to your child is the property of Suffolk Public Schools and when worn becomes a reflection of the pride and positive attitude that a member of Nansemond River High School Band must show. In order to maintain the standard the following uniform guidelines are necessary:

I understand that for Marching Band, my child is to always wear the current year Band T-shirt, black socks, and black shoes. All hair must be a natural hair color. Brightly dyed hair will not be prohibited. Jewelry is prohibited. Nail polish, other than clear is prohibited. Auxiliaries must also have uniformed hair style. Failure to do so will result in the student/member not performing and sent home.

I understand that my child will be given a uniform to perform in at the beginning of each activity and my child is to return it at the end of the activity. Uniforms are not to be carried home unless prior approved by the Director of Bands.

Uniforms will be sent for cleaning directly from the School.

I have read the above statements and understand my responsibility.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Please Print Name

Student/Member Signature

Date

Please Print Name