

Washburn High School Music Department

***Highlighted portions of contract are new for the 2025-2026 school year.**

Senior High Band & Choir,
Junior High Band & Choir

2025-2026

Welcome to another year of Band and/or Choir!

The following will explain what every band/choir student will be graded on and their expectations for the school year. Parents, I ask that you please read through this contract to make sure you are both aware of all expectations, performance dates, and policies. Students will go over this contract in class. **The back page must be filled out and returned to Mr. Moe by Friday, August 28th.** This will be the first band/choir grade of the year.

All parents who have a child in band or choir are members of music boosters and will be asked to help at certain times during the school year. Notices will be emailed prior to each music booster meeting. All band/choir parents are welcome and encouraged to attend our monthly meetings. We do a fair amount of fundraising each year to help defray the cost of running a music program. That money is also used to take a trip every four years in High School.

Student Expectations and Grading Policy:

Students will be graded on the following criteria each semester: concert/pep band participation (this includes performances outside of the school day and school calendar), in class participation, instrument care and maintenance, in class worksheets or writing assignments, and playing tests.

All performances are required. If you notice a performance conflict it is the parent's/student's responsibility to let Mr. Moe know at least two weeks ahead of time so that an alternative assignment can be made. *The alternative assignment may not be equal to the grade of the performance.* Please note that all performances are planned well over a year in advance and are listed at the end of this contract, put on the school calendar, on the school and music websites, and talked about with students during each class day. A missed performance will carry the consequence of a reduced band/choir grade as well as a makeup assignment when possible. A makeup assignment is not always an option. If you are unsure always talk to Mr. Moe.

Pep-Band - The band is expected to play at most of the home athletic events and tournaments. The schedule for these dates is located in this contract, on the school website and calendar, on the music website, and posted every day in class. Please note that some dates the junior high band will be part of the pep-band. All band students are expected to play except for if they are playing in the current game. JV students are expected to join the pep-band on stage as soon as their game is over. Students who are playing in an away game/or school sanctioned activity (such as athletics, speech, dance, FFA, etc.) with their Washburn team are excused from pep band after letting Mr. Moe know of said conflict. If a student is unable to make a pep-band event, they must let Mr. Moe know in advance. Having to work or babysit does not count as an excused absence. When in doubt contact Mr. Moe.

Students will start the beginning of each semester with 100 participation points. Everyday participation points will be assessed. The following are ways you can lose participation points. Tardy for class, talking/playing during an inappropriate time, forgetting instrument or class materials, or inappropriate or disruptive behavior in hallways or in classroom. The points a student has left at the end of the semester will be that student's participation grade. First point lost in a single class period will result in a verbal warning from Mr. Moe, second point lost will result in instrument being packed up and student will be talked to after class, third lost point in a class period will result in a detention. If a detention is given an email or phone call will be made to parents.

Senior High Band- Attendance will be taken at 8:10 every morning. Students are expected to be in the band room at the time of the 8:10 bell. Playing and morning announcement will begin at 8:12, at that time you are expected to be in your chair with all necessary materials. Some days band will start at 8:25 on those days you must be in the room before the tardy bell. On those days playing will start at 8:27. Those who are not in choir

will be released to study hall at 8:40 on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. ***If you are in the room but not ready to play by 8:12 you can be marked tardy!***

Choir – All choir only students will begin choir in study hall. At 8:38 you will be released to come to choir. Attendance will be taken at 8:41am on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. If you are not in your chair with your choir folder at that time, then you will be marked tardy.

Junior High Band – Attendance will be taken at the start of the hour. You need to be in the room by the time the tardy bell rings. Two minutes after the tardy bell you should be in your chair with folder and instrument ready to play. ***If you are in the room but not ready to play two minutes after the tardy bell you can and will be marked tardy.***

Cell Phones- In band and choir we will follow the policy put in place by the school administration and school board. Phones should be out during class time. The same policy goes for students coming in to practice during cardinal time. Phones will be taken away if out between the times of the tardy bell and the bell to end class.

Band Students are responsible for the care of their own instruments. The same goes for if you are renting a school instrument. Students renting a school instrument are liable for any damages done outside of normal wear and tear. All oiling and maintenance should be done outside of class time or during the beginning or end of class. Periodically, Mr. Moe will check instruments over to make sure they are being cared for; this instrument check can be a grade. If your instrument is not working properly, please talk to Mr. Moe about it at the beginning or the very end of class. Please take instruments in when they need repair! An easy fix can become an expensive fix if ignored for too long.

At no time should a student be handling an instrument or equipment that does not belong to them. Students are responsible for damage done to any instruments as a result of negligence, whether the instrument is theirs, another students, or the schools. Remember, an accident does not excuse responsibility!

Worksheets will periodically be done in class and students are expected to finish them to receive credit. Playing tests will be done in class in front of the band. It is the student's responsibility to be prepared for these tests. Remember you can take your instrument home to practice!

Band/Choir Room Rules:

1. Students should strive to achieve a positive “can-do” attitude.
2. All students will be honest, respectful, and polite.
 - a. If it does not belong to you, don't touch it. If it is not nice, don't say it.
3. Each student should strive for a maturity of conduct and attitude befitting of a first-class musical organization.
4. No food or drink in the classroom. Water in a resealable bottle is ok.

Detentions:

Detentions can be served before school or after school. Please check with Mr. Moe if you are planning to serve a detention to make sure there is not a schedule conflict. Detentions can range from 15-20 minutes depending on the severity of the problem. It is up to the student to secure transportation when they have to serve a detention. If a before or afterschool detention is not possible, please talk to Mr. Moe about a way to make it up.

Instrument Storage Cubby:

At the beginning of the school year each band student will be assigned a cubby for instrument storage. It is the student's responsibility to keep this area neat. Please, no food, drink, or garbage stored in your cubbies. If Mr. Moe sees something that looks like food, drink, or garbage it will be thrown away. Washburn public school is not responsible for instruments or belongings left in the cubbies in the band room. At no time should a

student be messing around another student's cubby or belongings. If caught messing with another student's belongings said student will lose participation points, serve a detention with Mr. Moe, and/or possibly lose the use of their cubby. During class all cases need to remain in cubbies and not on the floor. Some larger instruments may be excused from this rule.

Bathroom Policy: The bathroom is to be used during passing periods not the middle of class. That being said if an emergency arises, please talk to Mr. Moe.

No food or Drink in Class: In an effort to keep our facilities nice there should be no food or drinks brought in to the band/choir room unless authorized by Mr. Moe. It is, however, acceptable to have a bottle with water in class. There will be some days where we have "Breakfast in Band" on those days' students are able to bring something into the band room.

Extra Credit Opportunities: Students can earn a better grade or extra credit in the following ways: Helping setup or tear down at elementary and high school concerts, helping to teach younger students before or after school, and trying out for Honor Groups.

Concert Attire:

- a. Students are expected to dress appropriately for a performance. Concert dress is black and white with school colors. (Black, White, Red, Gold)

Examples of this include:

- i. Black slacks or jeans with a white button up shirt or polo and a red tie if applicable.
- ii. Black slacks or long black skirt with a white or white dressy top and red or white accent pieces. A black long dress may be worn as well. **An appropriate dress/skirt length for a concert, festival, or performance would be mid-calf or ankle length.**
- iii. Casual dress is appropriate for a pep band performance.
- iv. School dress code will be followed for all events, trips, and performances.

Music Trips:

Every four years WHS choir / band students go on a music trip. Trips are very expensive, and it takes multiple years of hard work and fundraising to put them together. For this year's music trip, the responsibility of the student is \$400 paid in two payments. The first payment was done in May 2025 the second will be due **Thursday, September 24th 2025**. \$150 of that will be given back to student during the trip to be used as spending money. The music boosters will be paying the remaining (approximate) \$1,050 for each student to attend the trip. Music boosters funding is raised through donations, concessions at events, and our annual coffee fundraiser. Please make sure that every family does their part to help us reach our fundraising goals. Emails will be sent home during the school year with opportunities to help!

Students who decide they are no longer wanting to attend the trip will need to let Mr. Moe know (in writing) of this before **Tuesday, February 24, 2026 (90 days before the trip)**. After that date students will **NOT** be able to get their deposit back and may be asked to pay the money lost by the music boosters. If a student is unable to attend the trip because of a school event (Ex. advancing to state in softball or baseball) then students are eligible to get back their deposit. When in doubt please talk to Mr. Moe!

In order to be eligible for the trip students must be in grades 9-12, must have met their fundraising obligations or be willing to pay the difference, must have met their performance obligations, must not exhibit behavior problems, and be in good standing with Washburn High School and the Washburn music department. Being suspended or academically ineligible will result in being excluded from the trip **AND** losing the trip deposit. A student who is continuously in trouble may be excluded from the trip and lose their deposit even if they are eligible at the time of the trip. These trips are big responsibilities, and we can't take students we can't

trust! It is at Mr. Moe's and WHS Administration's discretion to decide if a student can or cannot attend the trip based on the criteria above.

Student's belongings are subject to search before and during the music trip by school staff and law enforcement. This includes luggage, handbags, and backpacks. Students found with contraband (i.e., alcohol, tobacco, drugs, vapes, etc.) will be sent home at the expense of their parents/guardians as well as being subject to any laws or school rules broken.

In some cases, a student may be asked to pay a remaining balance if they have not met their fundraising obligation over the years. Music trips are expensive, and the music booster's organization pays most of the bill. Students who accept funding from the music boosters to go on our music trip are expected to be in band and/or choir the following school year.

Pay close attention to trip details and deadlines, failure to do so may mean the forfeiture of your deposit. Mr. Moe and the administration of Washburn High School hold the right to refuse a student from attending a trip at their own discretion. If you have any questions, feel free to talk to Mr. Moe. **Our music trip is planned for May 25-30 of this school year!**

Lessons: Students who are working on solos, ensembles, or preparing a piece for an audition will be asked to come in for lessons outside of the normal class time. In some cases, Mr. Moe will be able to do lessons during the school day, check with Mr. Moe to see if he has that time available. Students doing solos or small ensembles who have not passed off their music for Mr. Moe will not be able to perform.

Extra credit will be given to all students doing lessons, trying out for honor choirs, and working on solos for festival.

John Philip Sousa Award / Patrick S. Gilmore Award / Senior Choir Awards:

The following conditions are to be met by the recipient of these awards. If no student meets the set criteria, then no award will be given that year. In some cases, more than one award may be given out.

- 1.) Better than average student.
- 2.) Cooperation above and beyond normal duties.
- 3.) Musicianship, Great attendance, Diligence, Inspiration to others, and overall Positive attitude.
- 4.) Ambassador to the Washburn Music Programs
- 5.) Senior Music Student in good standing with the group, director, and school.

Being a part of a band means you are depended on for the success of the group so students who sign up for band are expected to follow through with their responsibilities to the end of the school year/concert season.

If you have any questions or concerns about the above policies, please talk to Mr. Moe.

Thank You,

Dustin Moe
Washburn High School Band and Choir
701-462-3221
trumpetmoe@gmail.com

<https://trumpetmoe.wixsite.com/washburnmusic>



Washburn Music Department

Performance Schedule

2025-2026

(Events may be added or changed as needed)



Bolded events are graded / Italicized events are optional

#	Date	Event	Group	Arrive	Location / Start Time
1	September 19, 2025	Pep Band - FB vs Central McLean (HOMECOMING)	HS Band	6:10pm	Washburn Football Field - 6:20pm
2	September 24, 2025	Northwest Festival Auditions Due	8th -12th Grade Band/Choir	3:25pm	Washburn Band/Choir Room
3	September 25, 2025	(HS Music Students Only: 2nd installment of trip deposit due \$200)			
4	October 3, 2025	Pep Band - FB vs Heart River (Parent's Night)	HS Band	6:10pm	Washburn Football Field - 6:20pm
5	October 11, 2024	Surround The State In Song - Elementary Music Festival	5th / 6th Grades	7:30am	Bismarck TBA - 8:00am
6	Ocotober 21, 2025	Pep Band - VB vs Wilton (Parent's Night)	JH/HS Band	5:30pm	Washburn New Gym - After B Squad
7	October 22 or 29 TBD	UND Honor Auditions	10th-12th Grades Band/Choir	TBD	Legacy HS
8	October 24, 2025	McLean County JH Honor Band (NEW!! - Selected by Mr. Moe)	JH Band	TBD	Turtle Lake-Mercer School
9	November 7 - 8, 2025	Northwest Festival of Music	8th -12th Grade Band/Choir	6:40am	Minot State University 8:00am
10	December 4, 2025	Elementary Christmas Concert	K-6th Grades	6:40pm	Washburn New Gym - 7:00pm
11	December 11, 2025	Junior High / High School Christmas Concert	JH/HS Band/Choir	7:10pm	Washburn New Gym - 7:30pm
CHRISTMAS BREAK					
12	January 6, 2026	Pep Band - Double Header vs Flasher (play both varsity games)	JH/HS Band	5:00pm	Washburn New Gym - After Boys JV
13	January 9, 2026	All - State Festival Auditions	HS Band/Choir	TBD	Bismarck State College - TBD
14	January 15, 2026	Pep Band - Double Header vs Center (play both varsity games)	JH/HS Band	5:00pm	Washburn New Gym - After Boys JV
15	January 22, 2026	Pep Band - Girls BB vs New Salem	JH/HS Band	6:00pm	Washburn New Gym - After girls JV
16	January 23 - 25, 2026	University of North Dakota Honor Festival	10th -12th Grades	TBD	Grand Forks - UND - TBD
17	January 29, 2026	Pep Band - Double Header vs Wilton (play both varsity games)	JH/HS Band	5:00pm	Washburn New Gym - After Boys JV
18	February 5, 2026	Pep Band - Girls BB vs Bowman County (Parent's Night)	JH/HS Band	6:00pm	Washburn New Gym - After Girls JV
19	February 12, 2026	Pep Band - Boys BB vs New Salem (Parent's Night)	JH/HS Band	6:00pm	Washburn New Gym - After Boys JV
20	Feb 27 - March 3	Boy's District Tournament (Pep Band 1 Night - TBD)	JH/HS Band	TBD	Washburn New Gym - TBD
21	March 7, 2026	McLean County Music Festival - Elem/JH Solo and Ensemble	5th - 8th Grades Band/Choir	8:00am	Washburn Public School - 9:00am
22	March 10, 2026	Region VII Large Group - Band / Choir Festival	HS Band/Choir	7:50am	Washburn Public School - 8:10am
23	March 26 - 28, 2026	All - State Music Festival	HS Band/Choir	All Day	Bismarck Civic Center
24	April 9, 2026	Region VII Small Group - HS Solo and Ensemble	HS Band/Choir	12:00pm	Washburn Public School - 12:00-8:00pm
25	April 23, 2026	Junior High / High School Spring Concert	JH/HS Band/Choir	7:10pm	Washburn New Gym - 7:30pm
26	April 30, 2026	Elementary Spring Concert	K-6th Grades	6:40pm	Washburn New Gym - 7:00pm
27	May 2, 2026	State Class B Music Festival	HS Band/Choir	All Day	TBD
28	May 4, 2026	Washburn Jamboree - HS Solo and Ensemble Concert	HS Band/Choir	7:10pm	Washburn Old Gym - 7:30pm
29	May 24, 2026	Washburn Graduation	HS Band / Selected JH Band	1:40pm	Washburn New Gym - 2:00pm
30	May 25, 2026	Memorial Day Program	HS Band / Elementary Singers	9:20am	Memorial Hall - 10:00am
31	May 25 - 30, 2026	CHICAGO MUSIC TRIP!	HS Band/Choir	TBD	Meet WHS Parking Lot - TBD
32	June 6, 2026	Riverboat Days Parade	HS Band	9:20am	WHS Band Room - 10:30am

Always talk to Mr. Moe in advance if there is a conflict with a date on this schedule!

Please sign and return only this page of the contract

By signing below both parents and student have read through this band contract and fully understand and agree to how they will be graded and what their responsibilities in band will be during the 2025-2026 school year. All information will be sent home through email obtained from PowerSchool. To ensure you are getting correct and up to date information please make sure to update your email with the office and PowerSchool.

Due Friday, August 29th 2025.

PARENTS: Please make sure you take the time to go over the school performances and especially the trip information included in this contract. Performances can and do extend beyond the normal school day and school year.

MISSING PERFORMANCES CAN RESULT IN A LOWER GRADE AND NOT BEING ABLE TO ATTEND THE MUSIC TRIP!

Student Signature

Student Grade

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date
