

Spotsylvania High School
Marching Band Boosters Association
P.O. Box 1717, Spotsylvania, VA 22553

Band Students and Parents,

I would like to first welcome all of our new Spotsylvania High School band students and parents. I look forward to meeting and working with everyone this year.

This packet will hopefully provide you with helpful information about the Band Boosters, our 2024 budget, our Fundraising Pledge and activities, and your SHS Marching Band Board members. Please review the calendar, which informs band members of important dates, competitions, and practices. Mark these dates so that we can provide our SHS Marching Band great support.

In order for the SHS Marching Band to have a successful year, we need the help and support of both the students and parents.

Brian Jacobs,
Band Director

SHSMBBA Staff - Board Members

Staff:

Brian Jacobs	Band Director	bjacobs@spotsylvania.k12.va.us
Ruoshuan Chen	Assistant Band Director	rchen@spotsylvania.k12.va.us
Donna Steckler	Assistant Band Director	dsteckle@spotsylvania.k12.va.us
Angie Thomas	Auxiliary Coach	athomas@spotsylvania.k12.va.us
Gary Grimes	Percussion Instructor	

Board Members:

Rachel Austin	President	president@spotsybandboosters.org
Crystal Wersching	Vice President	vicepresident@spotsybandboosters.org
Suzanne Lizanna	Asst. Vice President	fundraising@spotsybandboosters.org
Kate Stafford	Treasurer	treasurer@spotsybandboosters.org
Brittany Pules	Secretary	secretary@spotsybandboosters.org
Kim Dickey	Director - Student Affairs	hospitality@spotsybandboosters.org
Chris Austin	Pit Crew Chief	pitcrew@spotsybandboosters.org

Calendar of Events 2024-2025

The following dates are for you to get an idea of the time commitment required to be in the Band. **These dates may change!** Please visit www.spotsyhighbands.org for the most up-to-date calendar of events.

PRACTICE COMMITMENT - Attendance - Practice is crucial to the team and show. Excessive absences that result in the modification of formations may necessitate your removal from the show. You are expected to attend all practices. Please give notice to the band director (Instrument playing & Pit members) or Auxiliary Coach (auxiliary performers) if you are unable to attend.

General Information:

Football Games - Students stay after school to practice and share in a meal before the game.

Spring Training:

5/20 - 5/21	2:30 - 4:30	Spring Training
5/21	5:00 - 6:00	Booster - New Parent Meeting - New Member Signup

Summer Practice Schedule - You are expected to attend if you are in town.

7/02	2:00 - 5:00
7/09	2:00 - 5:00
7/16	2:00 - 5:00
7/23	2:00 - 5:00

Band Camp (Mandatory)

7/29 - 7/30	12:00 - 4:30	New Marcher Camp
8/01 - 8/02	8:30 - 4:30	Band Camp (Full Day)
8/05 - 8/08	12:30 - 5:30	Band Camp

Practice Schedule

8/12, 8/19, 8/26	2:30 - 4:30	Sectionals Practice (Mondays Only)
8/13 - 9/27	2:30 - 5:30	After School Practice (Tues - Friday Only)
10/01, 10/02, 10/4	2:30 - 5:30	After School Practice (Tues, Wed, Friday Only)
10/08 - 10/25	2:30 - 5:30	After School Practice (Tues - Friday Only)

Football Games

8/30	LaFayette	7:00 - 9:30	
9/06	Brooke Point	7:00 - 9:30	
9/13	Caroline	7:00 - 9:30	
10/11	Courtland	7:00 - 9:30	Homecoming
10/25	James Monroe	7:00 - 9:30	
11/01	King George	7:00 - 9:30	

Snacks and Water

We ask that each student bring in 24 individually wrapped snacks (No nuts please) to share during summer camps and practice sessions. If you would like to bring in a fresh snack (i.e. fruit, cheese sticks, etc.), please contact the Director of Student Affairs. We also ask that parents donate 1 case of bottled water (40) to be used for practice, dinners, competitions, etc. Snacks and water can be dropped off in the band room.

Each student needs to bring a gallon jug of water for each practice session. Please label with your name. Water jugs can be stored in the band room during school hours.

Competition/Exhibition

Report times will be posted on the Band calendar.

8/23 Parent Band Preview
9/21 Dominion Raceway
9/28 Riverbend
9/28 Hermitage
10/05 Hanover
10/19 Mills Godwin
10/26 VBODA - State Assessment/Massaponax
10/27 Marine Corps Marathon - DC
11/4 Fall Showcase
12/07 Spotsylvania & Fredericksburg Christmas Parades

Band Booster Meetings

Booster meetings will be held on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6 PM, in the band room at SHS, unless otherwise posted. It is important that a representative of each family attend these meetings in person or by zoom. Email notification will be sent out to notify of any time changes or cancellations.

5/21 500 - 6:00 Booster Meeting - New Member Signup
Payment of Dues or \$50 Deposit
June No Scheduled Meeting
7/9 6:00 - 7:00 Booster Meeting
8/06 6:00 - 7:00 Booster Meeting
9/03 6:00 -7:00 Booster Meeting
10/01 6:00 - 7:00 Booster Meeting
11/12 6:00 - 7:00 Booster Meeting
12/03 6:00 - 7:00 Booster Meeting

Budget and Fundraising Guidelines

Fundraising is the lifeblood of our organization. These efforts make it possible to operate a quality program and keep your out-of-pocket expenses down. It is a shared responsibility among all members. As a member of SHSMBBA, you will need to pledge that your student and family will actively support all fundraising efforts.

At times we will host fundraising events which require planning, set-up, running, and taking down. We need your support to make these events possible. Some examples are Goody Table, Bingo, Car Washes, etc. We will be communicating regularly throughout the season regarding all fundraisers and how you can help

Financial Commitments

Parents are required to pay annual student membership dues of \$200. A **non-refundable deposit of \$50.00** is due at our May 21st Booster meeting if dues have not been paid yet. The remaining balance of \$150.00 can be paid in \$50 increments by the first Tuesday of the month until paid in full or you may choose to pay the dues all at once. The annual membership dues expense will be reduced by 50% for additional students of families with more than one child in the band (\$100.00).

There will also be some additional expenses that are not included in the budget. The General Fund covers the cost of a new student's first show shirt, shoes, gloves, and one cleaning of their uniform. One show shirt for returning members will also be provided. If your student outgrows their shoes, wants a jacket, an additional show shirt, or requires an extra cleaning of their uniform; these will be an additional expenses to be paid for by the parent. If they have student fundraising credits on their account you may use those credits to cover the cost of these additional expenses.

Students who fail to pay the annual dues will be ineligible for awards and will not be able to participate in Marching Band next year. ***If assistance is needed to meet financial obligations or to work out a payment schedule please contact Brian Jacobs at bjacobs@spotsylvania.k12.va.us for a confidential meeting.***

Student Accounts

Each student member will have an account in their name to hold credits from student fundraising and to track payment of annual membership dues. These accounts are held funds. Credits will never be converted to cash to any student. Upon graduation, credits in senior accounts can be rolled into a siblings account. The sibling must be an active member or incoming participate in the following 2 years instrumental music program. They may also be transferred to another active member at the discretion of the Board. Only fundraisers designated as Student Fundraisers can be used to earn credits for student accounts. All other fundraisers will be for the General Fund. Any unused credits will not be transferred or refunded but will become part of the General Fund after the termination of an active participating member.

Student credits may be used for:

- Payment of annual student membership dues
- Payment of band trip expenses
- Payment of additional expenses associated with the cost of being a member of the Marching Band such as extra show shirts, new shoes, jacket, etc.

The Red Collection Box

A big red Collection Box is located in the band room next to Mr. Jacob's office. It is there for you to deposit any cash/check payments, notes for the Board, or fundraising information. Everything put into the Red Box should be in an envelope, clearly labeled with the student name and what it is allocated for. Credit card payments can be made by Square on our website, www.spotsyhighbands.org. Message will come up as a donation amount because we are a nonprofit organization. Please note who and what the payment is for.

SPOTSYLVANIA HIGH SCHOOL BAND RULES

The Spotsylvania High School Marching Band is an organization of students and staff who pride themselves in excellence. Excellence in our personal performance, our section performance, our band performance, and in the way we represent ourselves and our school. This code of conduct outlines our policies that are necessary to achieve the goals that we set for ourselves; to have pride in ourselves and others, to always perform as winners, and to work together to be truly excellent in everything that we do.

ATTENDANCE:

In order to get the most out of our rehearsals it is important to have everyone present.

- A student must be at school for at least half of the school day (two class periods) in order to participate in after-school activities (practices, performances, trips, etc.) Students should make every effort to attend school.
- Band members are expected to attend all marching band functions. The only acceptable reasons for missing a practice or performance are illness or a death in the family. Absences can be excused with appropriate notice to Mr. Jacobs no less than a week before the missed event. Mark your personal calendar now with those dates that have been outlined above.
- A copy of the band calendar can be found at www.spotsyhighbands.org. Check it often. Missing a practice or performance (unless excused in advance by Mr. Jacobs) can be cause for dismissal from the marching band.
- Each band member will be allowed one excused absence from practice but not a competition. An absence is excused only if it is cleared with Mr. Jacobs ahead of time. In cases where advance notice is impossible, a note must be brought in by the band member the next day explaining their absence. This excused absence is for practices only; not for games, parades or competitions.
- Students who miss practice more than once in a week will not be allowed to perform with the ensemble that weekend including: Football Games and Competitions.

- Students with chronic absences will be removed from the program. We will be enforcing a **three strikes and you're out policy** this year.

GAMES:

When we wear the uniform of the Spotsylvania High School Marching Band, we are representing not only ourselves, but our band and school. We should wear the uniform in such a way that everyone who sees us will know the pride we feel for each other, for our band, and for our school.

- The marching band will march into the stands before the game and will march to the band room (at home games) or the buses (at away games) after the game.
- Sections will sit together in the stands. **NO ONE** will be allowed in the band section of the stands who is not a band member or band parent.
- When travelling all students are required to ride the bus to and from events. Some exceptions can be made with prior approval from Mr. Jacobs.
- The band will be given the third quarter off to go to the concession stand, restrooms, etc. When the game clock shows the end of the third quarter, everyone should be back in the stands in their section, ready to play.

UNIFORMS:

Remember you are representing yourself, the band, and the school while wearing the uniform.

- The SHS band uniform consists of the following:
 - Horns/Percussion/Instrument playing members - Jacket, pants (bibs), show shirt, black shoes, black socks, black gloves, and shako (hat)/plume.
 - Pit Crew - Pit Crew polo, blue jeans, and tennis shoes.
 - Auxiliary - Uniform, hair accessories, make-up, shoes, tights, etc. as directed by the Auxiliary Coach.
- We must always wear our uniforms the same way. In case of warmer weather; jackets, gloves, and hats may be removed but only at the direction of Mr. Jacobs or the Drum Major.
- It is acceptable to wear winter coats over the band uniform, except during performances.
- Baseball hats or other types of non-uniform hats are not acceptable while in uniform.
- Band members will not be allowed to remove their uniform jacket if they are not wearing their band show shirt underneath.
- The band uniform is to be hung neatly on a hangar and placed in your garment bag when not being worn. Students are not allowed to take uniforms home with them.

BUSES:

All Spotsylvania County bus rules apply to all trips.

- Proper and courteous behavior is expected at all times.
- Students are to ride the bus home from every event. Only prior written approval from Mr. Jacobs will be allowed.
- Public displays of affection can make others uncomfortable and is not acceptable behavior at any time.
- Phones or other such devices may be played at moderate volume while traveling; however, if the bus driver or chaperone requests that the volume be turned down, then it needs to be immediately.

Because progress is essential to achieving excellence, a strict policy on behavior is necessary. Anything that hinders our progress keeps us away from our goal of excellence. Since to list every inappropriate action or define every appropriate alternative would be impossible, the following three statements are guidelines designed to help students in choosing their course of action.

TO ACHIEVE EXCELLENCE, WE MUST HAVE . . .

An environment conducive to learning: In a large group, problems, minor or serious, distract us from focusing our attention on the task at hand. Enforcement of rules helps us to eliminate distractions.

- **A band to be proud of:** When you are surrounded by people who are dedicated to the same goal as you are, and you have all the right tools to work with, excellence is an attainable goal. Being a member of the band means doing more than just going through the motions. Behaving responsibly, knowing that your actions as a member of the band reflect on every other member, being on time, having a positive attitude, and working productively toward our goals, will make progress possible and failure impossible.
- **An organization that works:** The student leader staff is comprised of band members who have been members for more than one year. They have committed themselves to excellence in their performance and wish the same for all band members. They are responsible to the members of their section or to the band as a whole, to ensure members are on task and working to improve our performance.

Code of Conduct

- Be kind, supportive and fair to one another!

- Respect the Band Director, coaches, chaperones, adults and fellow band members.
- Attend all Marching Band practices, performances, award assemblies, and competitions.
- School rules apply to all students and parents no matter where we are.
- Follow all bus rules as laid out by the bus driver.
- Remain in the stadium for all games, performances, and competitions. If you leave the stadium for any reason, you must have an adult escort.
- Sit in the SHS section of the stands for the awards ceremony at every performance or competition.
- Keep your uniform, instrument and equipment clean, neat, and accessible at all times. Wear athletic/gym shorts while changing in mixed company. Boxers, leotards, flesh-colored unitards, revealing bras or underclothing are not permitted in mixed company. Students must wear shoes on their feet at all times. Sandals are not permitted during practice. Tennis shoes or similar closed shoes must be worn.
- Students must be passing all classes to participate in band.
- Report any concerns to an adult immediately. The incident will be documented and given to the Band Director for further investigation. The Band Director will handle any referrals or disciplinary action.

Spotsylvania High School Band Rules Commitment

Your signature here indicates that you have read the documents entitled "SHS Band Rules" and you understand, agree, and will follow all paragraphs of this document. Your signature is also your formal agreement to help and not hinder in enforcing all policies of the Spotsylvania High School Marching Band. In signing this commitment, you also agree that if you do not adhere to the Band Rules that consequences are necessary to provide you with an environment conducive to learning, a band to be proud of, and an organization that works.

Band Student Name: _____
(Please Print)

Band Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____
(Please Print)

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: ____/____/____

Fundraising Pledge

I, _____, (parent/guardian) understand that it requires the effort of all parents/guardians in order to have a successful Marching Band program. In cooperation with _____, (student) we wish to pledge our support and efforts towards fundraising for the 2024-2025 school and band year. I understand that this pledge is in accordance with the fundraising guidelines approved by the band booster association and outlined in this membership contract.

I agree to pay my student out of pocket portion of \$200 and any additional expenses that may be incurred by my student throughout the course of the season. I understand that if any fees are not paid, my student will not be eligible to receive any awards, letter or scholarships, and will not be able to participate in Marching Band next year.

Band Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: ____/____/____

SHSMBBA Willingness to Serve Form

In order to reduce future costs, we sincerely need your help
to make events successful.

Please review the list below and check those areas where you can lend a hand.

Your time really makes a difference!

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Student Name: _____

Home Phone: ____/____/____ Parent's Cell Phone: ____/____/____

Parent's Email _____

I can help with the following activities:

_____ Summer Band Camp
Table)

_____ Hospitality (Meals, Goody

_____ Pit Crew

_____ Fundraising

_____ Student Transportation

_____ 8th Grade Night

_____ Props, Set Designs, Build, Paint

_____ Senior Night

_____ Video/Photography

_____ Awards Banquet (May)

_____ Sewing Uniforms

_____ Bylaws Committee

_____ Chaperone (Competitions, Trips)

_____ Scholarship Awards
(Can't be a Senior Parent)

Spotsylvania High School Marching Band Application Form

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Student Name: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____ Student's Cell Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Band Member: _____ Instrument: _____ Color Guard: _____

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ - _____ - _____ Cell Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

Parent/Guardian's Email Address: _____

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ - _____ - _____ Cell Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

Parent/Guardian's Email Address: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACTS (In the event that a parent/guardian cannot be reached)

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Home Phone: _____ - _____ - _____ Cell Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Home Phone: _____ - _____ - _____ Cell Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

Medical Information Form
(Must also be completed for Chaperones, Pit Crew, etc., if needed)

Student Name: _____

Medical Insurance Carrier: _____ Policy #: _____

Family Physician: _____ Phone : _____ - _____ - _____

Health History

Chronic or Recurring Illness:

Asthma	Y__N__	Allergies (Include Medications) Yes ___ No ___
Heart Defect/Disease	Y__N__	Please specify: _____
Diabetes	Y__N__	_____
Ear Infections	Y__N__	_____
Epilepsy/Seizures	Y__N__	_____
Hypertension	Y__N__	_____
Musculoskeletal Disorders	Y__N__	
Bleeding/Clotting Disorders	Y__N__	
Kidney Disease	Y__N__	
Other: _____		

Immunization record is up-to-date? Yes ___ No ___

Are there any restrictions concerning physical activity? Yes ___ No ___ Please explain:

Is your student on any medication at the present time? Yes ___ No ___ If yes, please list all medications:

Does your student carry an inhaler, EpiPen, or any other medication with them at all times?

Yes ___ No ___ Please explain:

Can your student be given Tylenol, Ibuprofen, Motrin, Advil, Benadryl, Dramamine, Cough Drops, Imodium, or Pepto Bismol if needed? Yes ___ No ___ Please specify:

Emergency Authorization Form

My student/marching band member, _____, is physically fit and able to participate in the marching band program and may receive emergency medical care if necessary. I hereby give the attending adult permission to authorize and/or give emergency medical treatment. I certify that I am the parent or legal guardian of the student mentioned in the Medical Information Form and to the best of my knowledge, the information contained is true and correct. Should my student's health history change, I will request a new Medical Information Form to be completed by me. My student has my permission to participate in all marching band activities except as noted. I further give permission for my student to be seen or treated by a health care professional in the event such care is necessary and I am not able to be contacted.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____
(Please Print)

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

(Adult) Emergency Authorization Form (For chaperones, Pit Crew, etc.)

I, _____, am able to participate with the marching band program and may receive emergency medical care, if necessary. I hereby give the attending adult permission to authorize and/or give emergency medical treatment. I certify that I am the person mentioned in this Medical Information Form and to the best of my knowledge, the information contained is true and correct. Should my health history change, I will request a new Medical Information Form to be completed by me. I am able to participate in all marching band activities except as noted. In addition, I may be given the following medications and dosage as deemed necessary.

Notes: _____

Name: _____
(Please Print)

Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Release of Liability

This is to certify that the information contained on this form is true and correct and that I am the adult mentioned or the parent/legal guardian of _____. Should any of the information contained herein need modification in the future; it is the parents(s)/guardian(s) responsibility to make these changes in writing. No verbal expressions will be accepted, except in an emergency, as determined by adult volunteers. I understand that the attending adults are volunteers and cannot be responsible for injuries to you or your student/marching band member. Please discuss safety concerns with your student and share these concerns on this document. By signing this release, you are acknowledging that you understand the wording contained therein and that you give your student permission to participate in all marching band activities and that you will release the adult volunteers, attending chaperones, band boosters association, and band booster board of all responsibility in case of an accident, injury or death to your student/band member. You furthermore certify that you will hold the

adult volunteers, attending chaperones, Band Booster Association, and Band Booster Board harmless and will not bring suit against either party.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____
(Please Print)

Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____