

WEST HIGH SCHOOL BAND UNIFORM CARE GUIDE

You will be loaned a Marching Band uniform for the 2011-12 school year.

Each band member will have a place in the uniform room by jacket number and member's name. The complete Marching Band uniform consists of a jacket with removable gold baldric, vest, bib type suspender pants, hat/beret and plume, plus black shoes, black socks, white gloves, long-sleeve brown t-shirt, and garment bag. (The plume will be issued at performance time). **It is your responsibility to keep them clean.** Make no alterations to the uniform.

You are responsible for keeping your uniform pieces and shoes performance ready. Cleaning them as necessary, and reporting any damage as soon as it happens. Please see Mrs. Walker for hemming, adjustments, repairs or replacement. You are responsible for returning all uniform pieces at the end of the year cleaned. The shoes, socks, gloves, and t-shirt are yours to keep. You can reuse them the following year. The garment bag can be taken home after your senior year. Taking care of the uniform is part of your band grade.

You are responsible for bringing your complete uniform, in its garment bag, to all performances. If you are dressing at school or at the competition, you must bring everything you will need to change and store your uniform while not in use. If you forget your socks or gloves you will need to purchase a pair from Mrs. Walker. They are \$5 each. Make sure that you take everything home with you – and **make sure that everything you take belongs to you.**

At competitions, **do not** hang your uniform on the busses when getting dressed – the busses are dirty. Lay your garment bag on the ground and get your items from the bag. This way you won't drop it on the ground, and your uniform has a better chance to stay clean. While in uniform, remember that you are in a WHITE jacket and anything you lean against could be dirty.

When you arrive at school for a performance, place your garment bag on the rolling rack that is labeled with your section. These racks will be placed in the truck and taken to the performance.

GENERAL CARE OF UNIFORM AT HOME:

Proper ventilation is necessary to prevent mildew. **DO NOT store the uniform in the garment bag.** After competitions remove the uniform from the garment bag and hang on the rust-proof molded hanger provided. **Please close the Velcro on the jacket** and hang the pants on the natural crease of the pant. The pants should be smooth on the outside and smooth on top of the hanger. Hang the vest on the hanger. It is your responsibility to keep your uniform performance-ready.

CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS:

Pants:

- The uniform pants need to be washed in cold water by themselves on the **gentle/knit cycle.**
- Do not take out the safety pins from top of shoulder straps!
- Do not use fabric softener on any piece of the uniform!
- Use only non-chlorine detergent!
- **Dry pants completely on a low heat setting, before storing** to prevent mold and mildew. Place pants on provided hanger immediately after drying. **Press hem** if needed: place a clean dish towel or pressing cloth over hem (line up seams), press

on **lowest steam setting**, raising temperature slightly as needed. Try to avoid pressing the snaps.

- Do not wash jacket and pants together because of possible color transfer.
- **Do not dry clean.**

Jacket:

- **If anything gets on the jacket or vest**, either a Shout wipe or laundry spot cleaner should be used as soon as you see the spot. Then launder the jacket as soon as possible.
- Please unsnap sleeves, remembering where they were snapped, and use Shout or spray and wash along the dirty edge.
- **Close Velcro completely** before washing, being careful to line it up so that no Velcro is exposed.
- Keep the gold baldric on, with Velcro completely closed.
- Machine wash and dry on the **gentle/knit cycle**. You may use Spray and Wash when washing on any spots. Use only non-chlorine detergent! NO liquid fabric softener.
- **Dry jacket completely, on a low heat setting, before storing** to prevent mold and mildew. Place jacket on provided hanger immediately after drying.
- **Press sleeve hem** if needed: place a clean dish towel or pressing cloth over sleeve (line up seams), press on **lowest steam setting**, raising temperature slightly as needed.
- **DO NOT Dry Clean the jacket.**

Vest:

- Vest must be **hand-washed** and **dried flat**. **DO NOT dry vest in dryer.**

Hat:

- Do not adjust hat strap.
- Store hat in plastic bag, in box. (The hats will stay at school.)
- If the hat is dirty please see Mrs. Walker.

Shoes:

- Shoes should be cleaned before each performance. Shoes can be cleaned with a damp cloth. Write your name inside shoes with a permanent marker. **Store your shoes in the back compartment of your garment bag.**

Gloves:

- Please wash when they are dirty. Write name on inside wrist.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION:

Entertainment Unit T-SHIRT: You must wear your brown long-sleeved Entertainment Unit t-shirt under the uniform during performance time.

Shorts: Always wear basketball shorts (or similar type), leggings or spandex shorts under your street clothes so you will be prepared to dress outside.

Hair: All hair must be under the hat. For longer hair, ponytails must be worn high on the head. Use hair ties and bobby pins if necessary. Use hair ties the same color as hair (like black or brown-no bright colors).

Other: No jewelry, including earring, or colored nail polish at performances.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Uniform VP Alicia Walker at Alicia@tadf.net , (310) 944-9901