

Franklin Central High School

2022-23 Winter Guard Handbook



Guard Director

Adam Faircloth
adam.faircloth@ftcsc.org

Assistant Guard Director

Samantha Faircloth
samantha.kilbourne@ftcsc.org

Associate Director of Bands

Derek Ellinger
derek.ellinger@ftcsc.org

Winter Guard Liaison

Christy Smith
guardliaison@fcbands.org

6215 S. Franklin Road, Indianapolis, IN 46259

www.FCBands.org/

Music Boosters Contact Information

We are fortunate to have a very active and productive band booster organization which raises tens of thousands of dollars each year to help offset the cost of band activities. This organization is an official 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization. Please reach out to the following individuals FIRST. They will be your best route to gathering the information you need!

Elected Positions

President	Denise Holaday	President@fcbands.org
Vice President	Jessica Lee	VicePresident@fcbands.org
Engagement Coordinator	Jennifer McCormick	Engagement@fcbands.org
Events Coordinator	Amanda Groce	Events@fcbands.org
Fundraising Coordinator	George Hewitt	Fundraising@fcbands.org
Secretary	Karen Smith	Secretary@fcbands.org
Treasurer	Megan Dickey	Treasurer@fcbands.org

Appointed Positions

Student Accounts & Show with Scrip	Amanda Groce	StudentAccts@fcbands.org
Marching Band Liaison	Amanda Gaiser	MarchingBandLiaison@fcbands.org
Color Guard Liaison	Christy Smith	GuardLiaison@fcbands.org
Percussion Liaison	<i>Determined closer to season</i>	PercussionLiaison@fcbands.org
Concert Band Liaison	Heather Long	ConcertBandLiaison@fcbands.org
Transportation	Jon Gaiser, Justin Hutchinson	Transportation@fcbands.org
Props Lead	Chris Chandler	PropLead@fcbands.org
Food Lead	Melissa Kieper	kieper42@sbcglobal.net
Uniform Lead	OPEN	OPEN
Chaperone Lead	Danelle Grimes	dvca896@yahoo.com
Spirit Co-Lead	Casey Matczak	matczak@gmail.com
Spirit Co-Lead	Christy Smith	christysmigh714@gmail.com

ParentSquare

ParentSquare is the primary method of sending reminders and information to students and parents for the high school band program. Please ensure your devices have the capability to send and receive ParentSquare messages.

Every class and extra-curricular activity associated with the band program will have a ParentSquare group.

Franklin Central Band Boosters Financial Policies

The Band Boosters work very hard to keep fees as low as possible and to work with families suffering financial hardships. The Band Boosters developed the following financial policies with the best interest of the band program, students, and parents in mind.

- If a student's participation with an ensemble is terminated, all monies collected or fundraised will remain with the Band Boosters. Any outstanding fees for the ensemble must be paid in full.
- All previous fees must be paid in full or made current in accordance with their financial agreements before a student can participate in future ensembles/groups.
- All fees are due in accordance with the ensemble's established payment schedule.
- Delinquent accounts may be sent to collections. A fee of 33% will be added by the collection agency.

Show Hosting Requirements

The Band Boosters at Franklin Central High School host many events throughout the year, such as Winter Guard contests, Winter Percussion (IPA) contests, and a 2-day Winter Guard International (WGI) Percussion Regional. Groups from all over the country participate in these events, with attendance exceeding 5,000 guests. This generates ***TENS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS*** for the Band Boosters! Help is required to put on these prestigious events to help make out-of-pocket fees as low as possible.

NON-Marching band families must volunteer for one shift at any event we host during the school year.

Marching Band families must volunteer for the number of shifts outlined in their Marching Band Agreement form.

Hosting shows prevents the need to hold "door-to-door" fundraisers on a nearly constant basis.

Hosting shows throughout the year REDUCES the amount of time we spend fundraising.

Hosting shows reduces fees for ALL band students by HUNDREDS of dollars.

To put it simply...we LOVE hosting shows!

How To Pay Fees

Deposit Box

Checks payable to "FC Band Boosters"

Cash, checks, and money orders can be placed in the deposit box located on the wall to the right of the band office. The Band Booster treasurer is the **only** individual with a key to this box and it is checked regularly. Please allow a few days for the treasurer to transfer money to your student's account.

Mail

Mail your payment to:

Franklin Central Band Boosters
PO Box 39029
Indianapolis, IN 46239

Online Fee Center

NOTE: A 3.5% transaction fee will be applied to all payments made online.

- 1) Visit "fcbands.org"
- 2) Select "Make a Payment"
- 3) Select "Click Here to Pay Online"

Expectations

1. BE PROFESSIONAL. This is the most important expectation in the band program. It encompasses everything we do during individual practice, rehearsal, and performance. This includes supporting each other's musical training and holding yourself to a standard of excellence in the community at all times.
2. RESPECT YOUR INSTRUMENT/EQUIPMENT. Keeping your equipment in good working order is paramount to creating good sounds. Failure to properly maintain your equipment nullifies any attempts to perform in a professional manner. Keep your equipment clean, store it appropriately, and have all necessary repairs made in a timely manner.
3. RESPECT YOUR FACILITY. This is your school. Franklin Central is *extremely* fortunate to have a state-of-the-art music facility. All students, parents, and staff are expected to pick up after themselves and store equipment in the proper location. Storage areas in the band area will be used for band equipment only. Personal items will not be stored in your band locker outside of class or rehearsal time. The only items permitted in a rehearsal setting are those required for rehearsal.
4. RESPECT ONE ANOTHER. Showing respect for one another at all times is critical to our growth and success. During rehearsals and performances, do not worry about anyone other than yourself. Showing respect for each other and each other's personal property is a priority.
5. LEARN YOUR MUSIC/WORK. Students are expected to prepare their work during personal practice time outside of rehearsal. Failure to do so hinders our growth and success.

The following are examples of what it means to be professional:

- Be **ON TIME**. "To be on time is to be late. To be early is to be on time."
- Be prepared for rehearsal. This includes having the proper materials and a positive attitude.
- Remain quiet during rehearsal. This allows those being addressed to focus on improvement.
- 99% of the time, a reply of "Yes" or "No" is more than adequate.
- Practice at home...NOT DURING REHEARSALS. "Amateurs practice until they get it right...professionals practice until they cannot get it wrong."
- Always mind what you say when representing the band. Profanity is NOT tolerated.
- Extend respect to those outside the band. Leave a positive impression about the band and the school.
- Kindness can have the most profound impact of all. If you have nothing nice to say, keep it to yourself. If you will brighten someone's day...say it!

Disciplinary consequences for all band program activities, whether extra-curricular, co-curricular, or curricular, will adhere to the FCHS Student Handbook

Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct

A major purpose at Franklin Central High School is to establish a climate in which all students are able to learn with a minimum of disruption and interference; consequently, all students at Franklin Central High School are expected to behave in a way that does not disrupt or interfere with the education of fellow students. Furthermore, the Franklin Central High School band program offers students an extensive and diverse offering of extra-curricular programs. As such, higher standards of behavior are in place for students in this program to promote good citizenship as these students serve as ambassadors of Franklin Central High School for our community, state, and country. **Students who fail to meet expectations of the band program's extra-curricular activities will have consequences assessed by the sponsor or director of the activity, issued on a case-by-case basis, which may be in addition to consequences levied by school administration. Continued failure to meet these expectations, or one infraction of extreme circumstances, may result in removal from the extra-curricular activity.**

Extracurricular Attendance Policies

The following policies align with Franklin Central High School Athletic Department policies.

After-school rehearsals and performances are REQUIRED for all curricular and extracurricular activities. Excused absences for an after-school event will be handled on a case-by-case basis. These must be established at least two weeks in advance and will be granted or denied at the discretion of the ensemble's director. Extenuating circumstances existing within the two-week period will be handled on a case-by-case basis by the ensemble's director.

EXCUSED absences from CURRICULAR course events will be assigned a make-up assignment. This assignment will equal or surpass the time commitment required for the missed event. Failure to turn in the make-up assignment on time will result in an unexcused absence for that event.

UNEXCUSED absences from CURRICULAR course events will result in a zero for that event's performance grade (up to 70% of the overall course grade per nine weeks). These grades cannot be made up.

EXCUSED and UNEXCUSED absences from EXTRACURRICULAR activities may result in a consequence at the discretion of the ensemble's director. Examples of these consequences include: inability to perform at the next performance, running or other physical activities, and/or removal from the activity (without refund).

Examples of excused absences:

- Funerals for a family member (documentation may be required)
- Illness/injuries (documentation by the attending physician may be required)
- Activities sponsored by the school district (accepted only with prior attempts to work around the conflict)

Examples of unexcused absences:

- Work / Homework
- Non-IMMEDIATE family weddings
- Being "grounded"
- Vacations
- Family outings
- "I couldn't find a ride."

FCHS Band/Athletics Conflict Resolution Policies

The following policies, established in 2019, have been approved by the Principal, Athletic Directors, and Performing Arts teachers. Use these policies to determine which event you will attend (the sport, the band event, or both). The official form can be found on our website. See below for an abbreviated summary of these policies.

- All involved (students, the student's family, coaches, and directors) must understand the ultimate responsibility first and foremost is for the student to communicate any scheduling conflict to his/her coach(es) and performing arts director(s) at the BEGINNING of the semester or particular activity season.
- If simultaneous activities are PRACTICES of equal priority, a meeting may be set up between coaches/directors to determine which activity to attend. Any possibility for the participant to be at both activities will be discussed.
- If simultaneous activities occur and one is for ADVANCEMENT to a higher level, all involved expect the student will attend the activity for advancement.
- If simultaneous activities occur where there are MULTIPLE events vs. one SINGLE event, all involved expect the student will attend the one single event.
- If simultaneous activities occur where both events are for ADVANCEMENT, and the student receives a GRADE for either activity, all involved expect the student will attend the event receiving the grade.
- If simultaneous activities occur and both events are EXTRA-CURRICULAR, and deemed equal per the guidelines above, THE STUDENT (AND STUDENT'S FAMILY) WILL DECIDE THE ACTIVITY.
 - No punitive consequence shall be administered by the activity the student did not choose to attend.
 - If there is a simultaneous conflict and time allows for the student to participate in both activities, the student is *always* to attend and participate in his/her other activity when possible. The student will not be required to stay at one activity to observe other levels of competition/activities in which he/she is not personally participating (ex. watching other groups that may prevent participation in both activities).

If a decision cannot be reached between the two sponsors, the building principal will make the final call.

Social Media/Media Policies

Social Media

While using *any* form of a social media outlet, please adhere to the following policies. These guidelines are designed to help our program maintain a professional and positive public image. It also helps to maintain a collegial atmosphere throughout rehearsals (in other words, it will help us avoid drama).

Keep in mind whatever is said on the internet is permanently and irreversibly available for anyone to view worldwide for the remainder of human history. This includes everything an individual deletes and posts privately.

- Band members and adults connected to the Franklin Central Bands should not make statements that could be misunderstood as official policy of the band program.
- Band members and adults connected to the Franklin Central Bands should avoid escalating drama and spreading rumors about members of the band or the band as a whole.
- Making comments promoting poor sportsmanship will not be tolerated.
- Racial, sexist, homophobic, anti-religious, and any other inflammatory content directed toward ANY individual or organization will not be tolerated.
- Harassment or threats of violence made by a student or adult connected to the Franklin Central Bands toward anyone connected to the band department or any other organization will **not** be tolerated.
- Sexually explicit comments directed toward ANY individual or organization will **not** be tolerated.

Media

Your child will have pictures taken by newsgroups, our booster organization, other booster organizations, and miscellaneous parents who unintentionally get your child in a picture while trying to take a picture of their own. These pictures may end up on news outlets and social media. This is literally impossible to prevent. Our booster group can try to prevent our own parents from taking your child's picture, but we cannot police the rest of the world. We ask you to understand this and remain calm. Some pictures taken by parents and/or our booster group may be used as a way of lawfully promoting the program via our website, official social media platforms, publicity, illustration, and advertising (concert/event programs).

Travel/Bus Guidelines

Traveling to performances inside and outside of the Franklin Central High School community is a privilege all marching band members will experience. This is not a privilege to be abused. Each band member must realize their personal behavior is a direct reflection on the band program at *all* times. All Franklin Central High School band members will follow all band, school, county, state, and federal laws while on trips.

Busing will be provided for required performances. Transportation will need to be provided by students/parents for events such as, but not limited to, solo and ensemble, miscellaneous fundraising efforts, and minor performances for small ensembles. Advance notice will be provided when busing is not available for an event.

Students must have their agreement form and medical information sheet on file to travel with the band program.

Acceptable Bus Carry-On Items:

- All items must fit in your seat
- Necessary band items for our performance
- Non-sticky snacks
- Pillow (no blankets)
- Extra clothing
- Headphones
- Bottled water

Each bus driver will ultimately determine what is acceptable for his/her bus. Each individual bus driver may disallow items deemed acceptable for bus travel by the band program.

Varsity Letter Requirements

General Policies

Families may purchase a letter jacket at any time. The band program does not facilitate the purchase of a letter jacket. FCHS Band Program patches and letters are awarded at the end of each school year and are free for families. Other miscellaneous patches are available for purchase throughout the year from their respective organizations (ISSMA, IHSGCA, IPA, IBA, WGI, etc.).

Earning Patches

GRADUATION YEAR	Awarded by earning 5 points through band program participation (see below).
BAND LETTER/ CHEVRONS	Awarded by earning 15 points through band program participation (see below). Students will earn an additional chevron for each additional letter earned.
FCHS ENSEMBLE PATCHES	Earned by completing one full season with an ensemble. Fees must be paid in full.

Earning Your Letter

Students letter in band by earning 15 points through participation in the band program. Students will earn an additional chevron for each additional letter earned. Students will submit a worksheet toward the end of each school year to track points earned. Points are earned once the event has reached full completion. Submitting false information may result in the inability to earn additional points for the remainder of that student's time in the FCHS Band Program.

**-Earn 15 points to letter in band-
-Students will earn a chevron for each additional letter earned-**

<u>Ensembles</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Points</u>
Marching Band	8	Drum Major Camp	3
Indoor Percussion	8	Summer Music Camp	3
Varsity Winter Guard	8	S&E State Participation (<i>must perform</i>)	3
JV Winter Guard	6	Weekly Private Lessons (<i>majority of school year</i>)	2
Wind Ensemble	4	Honor Band (ex. All State, All-District, etc.)	2
Jazz I	4	AP Music Theory	2
FC Musical Participation	4	Intro to Music Theory	1
Philharmonic Orchestra	3	Music History	1
Wind Symphony	3	S&E District Participation (<i>must perform</i>)	1
Symphonic Band	3	PASIC I&E, IPA I&E Participation (<i>must perform</i>)	1
Concert Band	3	Year-Round Non-School Performing Arts	1
Dance Class	3	Activity w/ Weekly Rehearsal	
Jazz II	3		
Pep Band	3		
Electric Mayhem	3		
Static Havoc	3		

-Points are earned for each year of participation.

-Example: 3 years of pep band will equal 9 points!

-Points can be earned prior to high school for Ensembles/Activities with an asterisk (*).

-Example: JB Winter Guard participation in grades 6, 7, and 8 will earn 18 points!

Drug, Alcohol, and Controlled Substance Policy

Use or possession of any tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, and/or drug paraphernalia is strictly prohibited and will be grounds for dismissal from the band program. Students found with these substances will be referred to the Franklin Central High School Guidance Department for rehabilitation. Furthermore, immediate notification will be made with parents, school administrators, and the proper authorities. Use of any illegal substances on a long trip will result in the student being sent home at the expense of the student's parent(s) and/or guardian(s).

The Band Program Calendar

www.FCBands.org/band-calendar

The band program's online calendar contains dates and times for all events associated with the Winter Guard program. It is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED to sync your phone and/or other primary devices to this calendar to stay well-informed on upcoming events.

On the band calendar, you are looking for:

- "All Guards"
- "Open WG"
- "Reg A WG"

- Events followed by the word "ANNEX" occur in the Annex - Enter **DOOR 14S**
- Events followed by the word "HS" occur in at FCHS - Enter **DOOR 3W**
- Events including a school name are competitions. Click on the event for more information!

- Examples you will see on the calendar:
 - Open Guard 6p-9p HS <----- Open Guard practice at FCHS, 6pm-9pm
 - Reg A Guard 3p-6p ANNEX <----- A Guard practice at ANNEX, 3:30pm-6pm
 - All Guards Westfield <----- Competition at Westfield High School

Where is the Annex?

The Annex is the building directly north of the high school football stadium. Students will enter the building at Door 14S located on the south side of this building.

After-School Shuttle

A shuttle will bring Junior High students to the Annex on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. This shuttle will pick students up at Door 25 of the Junior High and depart between 3:10pm and 3:15pm each day. The bus may make multiple stops each day depending on the needs of the district but will end up at the Annex!

- Pick Up Location Junior High Door 25
- Depart Approx. 3:15pm
- Arrival Approx. 3:30pm

- **NOTE 1:** This shuttle is for Junior High Students ONLY! High School students will need to walk to the Annex or secure their own transportation.

- **NOTE 2:** This shuttle service only applies to practices starting at 3:00pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Students will need their own transportation for all other practices. This shuttle does not run on weekends.

What do we need for practice?

It is critical to our success that all students have the necessary items at ALL events. We cannot learn at maximum efficiency without the proper gear. Students without proper gear, for their own safety and the safety of others, may be asked to sit out.

Required Items for Every Practice

- Water Jug with Name Written on the Jug!
- Athletic Wear
 - Athletic Shoes
 - Comfortable, non-restrictive clothing (no jeans!)
- All necessary equipment (flags, rifles, sabres, etc)

How will drop-off/pick-up for practices work?

Instruction will BEGIN and END at the times listed on the band calendar. It is important for students to arrive with as much time as needed to prepare for practice. Likewise, students will typically take 10-20 minutes to pack up after practice before leaving the building. They will exit door 3W when practices are held at the high school. They will exit door 14S when practices are held at the Annex.

Guard Rifles

Franklin Central High School will provide flags and sabres for all guard students. If a student is on the rifle line, it is their responsibility to purchase and maintain a guard rifle. Families may purchase their rifle directly from the band program. This equipment must be kept in exceptional condition at all times. Students who are not on the rifle line are not required to purchase a rifle, but it is highly encouraged!

Required Guard Rifle

36" King "Kong" Rifle - Black Bolt, Black Strap (Brand is "King", Model is "Kong")

Where to Buy

See Mr. Faircloth or Mr. Ellinger! The band program maintains a stock of these rifles for purchase.

What do we need for competitions?

The following list of items are required for ALL competitions. Students without proper gear, for their own safety and the safety of others, may be disqualified for that performance.

Required Items for Every Competition

- Guard Jacket/Flag Bag
 - All rookies receive a guard jacket as part of their fees. Veterans wanting a new jacket must pay out-of-pocket.
- Make-Up
 - A list will be provided well in advance of our first performance with the required make-up. This will not cost over \$40. All items will be available at common retailers such as Walmart, CVS, Walgreens, Ulta, etc.
- For all members: Show Shirt, extra "Show Blacks"
- For females: Nude-colored bra and nude-colored, seamless underwear
- For males: The guard director will provide specific information for males as we approach the competition season.
- Money for concessions (*optional*)

Hair

This activity, much like any other subjectively adjudicated activity (indoor percussion, competitive cheer, gymnastics, etc), requires a specific and tailored look among its members to accentuate the desired aesthetic of the show. Furthermore, uniforms are custom-designed for each group's specific show. For this reason, it is imperative we follow all uniform and make-up guidelines as outlined by the design team to allow each show to reach its full potential.

While we celebrate the freedom of expression one can attain from dying their hair in non-natural hair colors, it is critical to our success that our hair is dyed in natural tones. Exceptions can be made with prior approval by the guard director.

Additionally, the design team determines hair styles with their membership's current hair length in mind. Maintaining our hair length mid-season is necessary. Exceptions can be made with prior approval by the guard director.

The day after our season ends, we can cut our hair and dye it in any combination of greens, pinks, purples, blues, or any other color we can dream! :)

Out-of-State Travel - ***OPEN GUARD ONLY***

The Open Guard will travel out-of-state during its competitive season. This event is required for all Open Guard members. Students will be out of school during WGI World Championships for three days. Specific information for out-of-state trips will be released WELL IN ADVANCE. All expenses for out-of-state events are included in the Open Guard fees with the exception of one meal each day (typically lunch).

Trip Information

WGI World Championships

Depart Wednesday, April 12

Return Sunday, April 16

(3-night stay @ Camp Chautauqua in Dayton, OH)

(around 6pm)

(around 2am)

Thursday, April 13

Friday, April 14

Saturday, April 15 (am)

Saturday, April 15 (pm)

Prelims

Semi-Finals

Finals

World Finals

Dayton, OH Area

Dayton, OH Area

University of Dayton Arena

UD Arena (watching as spectators)

What are all of these acronyms?

WGI Winter Guard International (the national competitive circuit)

IHSCGA Indiana High School Color Guard Association (Indiana's competitive circuit)