

Red Dragon Marching Band Disney Trip 2026

Chaperone Expectations & Behavior Guidelines

Dear Chaperones,

*Thank you for volunteering to support the Red Dragon Marching Band on our upcoming trip to **Walt Disney World and Universal Studios, April 7–11, 2026**. Your role is vital to ensuring a safe, enjoyable, and memorable experience for our students. To maintain the highest standards of professionalism and student safety, we ask that you follow the guidelines below throughout the duration of the trip.*

To qualify as a chaperone for the Red Dragon Marching Band Disney Trip, you must have a current BCI/FBI background check on file, be approved by the Band Director, and receive final approval from the Niles City School Board and Superintendent. These requirements help ensure the safety of our students and uphold the standards of our school district and music program.

***Being a chaperone is a privilege.** You are not only supervising students — you are serving as a representative of the **Niles Community and School System**. Disney holds **very high standards and expectations** for all of their performing groups, including their staff and chaperones. The reason we are able to return and perform at Disney is because of the **precedent of excellence** set by the Niles McKinley Marching Band members, directors, and chaperones who came before us. Their exemplary conduct and professionalism earned us the opportunity to return — and now it is our responsibility to **uphold that reputation** and ensure the tradition continues for future generations of Marching Red Dragons.*

Chaperone Responsibilities

Room Assignments: Chaperones will be assigned to shared accommodations with up to six adults of the same sex per room. If you prefer not to share a room, you may request a private room; however, you will be responsible for covering the full cost of the Premier Tour and Travel rate for individual lodging. This can be adjusted in your Premier Tour and Travel account.

Student Groups:

*Each chaperone will be **assigned a group of students** for the duration of the trip. You are responsible for the supervision, safety, and well-being of these students at all times. While your primary focus is your assigned group, you must also be available to assist **any student in need**.*

Availability:

*Chaperones must be **available and on-call at all times including sleeping hours(it does and has happened)** for their assigned students, as well as to support other chaperones, staff, or students as needed.*

Room Checks:

You are responsible for:

- **Morning room checks** – You must visually confirm every student is **out of bed and at the door**, ready to begin their day.
- **Evening room checks** – You must visually confirm every student is **in their room and accounted for** before lights out.
- **Selfie check-ins** – Throughout the day, you must collect periodic selfies from your assigned group to verify location, especially during independent group time in the parks. **If a student fails to check in, you must alert the Band Director immediately.**

Supervision:

Chaperones are expected to actively supervise students at all times. This includes:

- Staying alert and engaged
- Maintaining accurate headcounts
- Enforcing schedules and trip rules
- Ensuring all students are present and accounted for during **transitions** and **scheduled events**
- Monitoring student behavior in public and private settings to ensure safety and appropriate conduct

Presence:

Chaperones must **remain on Disney/Universal property or at designated venues at all times** while students are present. **Absences are not permitted and will not be excused under any circumstances.** Your continuous presence is critical to student safety, accountability, and the success of the trip. **When you commit to being a chaperone, you are committing to being fully present and engaged at all times.** Stepping away from your responsibilities, even briefly, places an undue burden on other chaperones and compromises student safety.

Engagement:

You are expected to participate in **all group activities**, including park entry, performances, group meals, and travel logistics. Your visibility and involvement are key to maintaining accountability and safety.

Code of Conduct

No Alcohol or Drug Policy: The possession, use, or consumption of **alcohol or drugs** is **strictly prohibited** at all times during the trip—regardless of location, timing, or circumstance. This includes during travel, at restaurants, in hotels, and during any personal or group time. **Violating this policy will result in immediate dismissal** from your chaperone responsibilities

and may permanently impact your eligibility to participate in future trips or band events. This rule is non-negotiable and applies without exception.

Professional Behavior:

*Chaperones are expected to serve as **positive role models** for students. Maintain respectful, courteous, and professional conduct in all interactions—with students, fellow chaperones, band staff, Disney/Universal personnel, and the public.*

Dress Code:

*Comfort is important, but please wear **school-appropriate attire** that reflects the values and professionalism of our organization. **Red Dragon Marching Band gear is encouraged** for visibility and group unity.*

Communication

Be Available:

*Please keep your **cell phone charged and accessible at all times**. Please bring a powerbank and cord with you to the parks. You will be added to group messaging for **updates and coordination**. You will need to share your number with the students assigned to you.*

Report Issues Promptly:

*Any behavioral, medical, or safety concerns involving students must be reported to a **Band Director immediately**.*

*We sincerely appreciate your time, energy, and dedication in helping make this trip a success. Your support allows our students to focus on **making music, building memories, and representing Niles with pride**.*

*If you have any questions or concerns about your role or these expectations, please don't hesitate to contact the **Booster Disney Committee or Mr. Orlando**.*

While this trip is filled with exciting experiences and unforgettable moments, it's important to remember that **this is not a vacation for chaperones**. Your primary responsibility is the safety, supervision, and support of our students at all times. We fully recognize and appreciate the **sacrifices you are making** with your time, energy, and money. Your commitment to volunteerism does not go unnoticed, and we are deeply grateful for your dedication.

That said, if after reviewing these expectations you feel that you **cannot fulfill these responsibilities or follow the guidelines outlined**, we ask that you notify the **Disney Committee immediately** so that we can make arrangements to find a suitable replacement. The success of this trip—and the safety and experience of our students—depends on the reliability and commitment of every adult involved.

Thank you for your commitment,
The Disney Committee & Mr. Orlando

Acknowledgment of Expectations

*I have read and understand the **Red Dragon Marching Band Disney Trip 2026 Chaperone Expectations & Behavior Guidelines**.*

I agree to adhere to the responsibilities, policies, and conduct outlined in this document.

Name (Printed): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____