

Gordonsville High School Band Handbook



Welcome to the Gordonsville High School Band family! There are three main purposes of the Gordonsville High School Band. Firstly, provide the students with a quality music education and develop their individual instrumental skills. Secondly, promote school-wide pride and good reputation through public performance and competition. Finally, we encourage our students to develop strong character qualities and good work ethics that will help them succeed now and in the future.

This handbook provides the guidelines for the policies, procedures, and curriculum for the Gordonsville High School Band program. If ever you have any questions, please feel free to contact me through the school, email, or the Remind app.

Tiffanii Brown

TBrown3@smithcoedu.net

Band Director

Gordonsville High School (615) 683-8245

Communicating with ParentSquare™



1. Visit [parentsquare.com](https://www.parentsquare.com) or download the ParentSquare or StudentSquare app, then follow the instructions in Step 2. For the best experience, we encourage everyone who can to download the free mobile app, available for iOS and Android.
2.  **Sign in using the email address on file in Skyward** (for parents), or use your **Google account** (for students and teachers).

With ParentSquare, you'll receive all school and classroom messages in one place — whether by email, text, app, or web. You'll also be able to:

- Stay up to date on news and events
- Send and receive messages with teachers and staff
- View calendar items and photos from your school

Download the app: https://www.parentsquare.com/select_school/new

Join GHS Band <https://www.parentsquare.com/groups/join/fclymbjluz>



If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. I'm looking forward to connecting with you!

Student Expectations

We will maintain a good reputation and experience success because of the good behavior of our students. Students are expected to

- WORK AS A TEAM, that means follow instructions when they are given, do your fair share of the work, and cooperate.
- BE RESPECTFUL to one another, teachers, leaders, parents, and administrators. Remember your manners!
- BE HONEST.
- BE POSITIVE, maintain a good attitude and be proud of your program.

- BE PUNCTUAL. Early is on time, on time is late. When rehearsal starts you should be in your spot with equipment, not just arriving.
- BE PREPARED, Have all materials with you at the beginning of the rehearsal.
- BE COMMITTED. The chain is only as strong as its weakest link. We need all of our members to attend everything and to work hard for the good of the group.

Financial Responsibilities

There are no set fees for Band Camp. At times, Band can be quite expensive. In a perfect world, the school would be able to supply all the students with everything they need free of charge.

Unfortunately, situations like that rarely exist. For Gordonsville High School Band, we need financial support to be raised within the band. We are fortunate to run a concession stand at home football games and need parent volunteers to work it during the games. **The concession stand is a major form of support to the band and it is not possible without the hard work of our volunteers.**

Please help as much as possible. Contact April Rowe 615-653-1917 to schedule volunteer time (call or text). We will offer fundraising opportunities throughout the year and ask that all students participate to help support the program. We have many needs and it will take the whole team working together to meet them. We do require any uniform worn during the school year to be dry cleaned and returned by the end of the year.

Attendance and Grading Policy

Our success depends on the abilities of the students involved in the Bands and on the responsibilities, discipline, and commitment that each one of our students show at all times.

Any Tardy, Absence, or Leaving Early from rehearsals will result in running laps. This is a flat rate, excused or not. Laps are like make up the work for physical conditioning missed. Any student who with 4 or more consecutive absences from rehearsals (without a doctor/parent note) will be removed from band.

Daily Grades

Participation

- Following directions
- Being present on time to class and rehearsal
- Having instrument/equipment, and materials at each class and rehearsal
- Taking an active role in the rehearsal without disrupting it

Daily Performance and Assignments

- Proper wear and care of uniforms
- Returning assignments, equipment, or other requested items on time
- Written music and music theory assignments
- Playing quizzes. All band students should be able to demonstrate their ability to know music studied in class and perform their parts when requested by the director.

TEST GRADES: PUBLIC PERFORMANCE AND REHEARSAL POLICY

- **All performances are mandatory.**
- Students are expected to demonstrate good behavior in public performances.
- Any excused absences from rehearsals need to be reported to the director beforehand or as soon as circumstances allow.
- **If a student misses a performance due to illness, family emergency, or other excused absence, he or she can make up the absence by doing an alternative assignment. A doctor's note must be turned in to the director for excused absences.**

- If a student misses all the rehearsals (unexcused) for a performance, they will not be allowed to perform with the band. However, they are still expected to attend the performance and participate in other productive ways.
- **If the performance absence is unexcused, it is simply a failed test grade. Day Trips, Movies, Concert tickets, Birthday parties, ect... are unexcused absences. Please make plans to attend all performances and rehearsals.**

Band is a privilege! The Band director reserves the right to remove any student from the band program or any band events due to repeated misconduct, failure to participate, or repeated unexcused absences and missed performance.

Cell Phone Policy

Cell Phones (and all other hand-held electronic devices) are not allowed out at rehearsals or performances (in the stands). Students may use their devices on breaks; however, they are responsible and liable for their personal devices. Cell Phones must be **turned off** or **silenced**, and **out of sight** during rehearsals and performances. **No Cell Phones on Music Stands during Rehearsal and No Cell Phones visible in class. Cell Phone Violations in class will result in ISS.**

After school Cell Phone Violations

First Violation: Warning

Second Violation: Device will be taken up until the end of rehearsal/performance.

Third Violation: Device will be taken up until the end of rehearsal/performance and parents contacted.

Marching and Concert Band

Band will meet as a class during school hours every day. In addition to that, there are two evening rehearsals on **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00pm-5:30pm**. On Fridays there will be a call time for arrival to prepare for the Football game or travel to the football game until the season ends. Some Saturdays will be scheduled as competitions/parades. If the band attends any competition, the band will remain at the competition until it is over and then travel home. Parents are welcome and encouraged to attend games and competitions.

During the spring we will continue to rehearse after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays in sections and full group rehearsals. Calendars will be handed out in advance. We will participate in a select number of home basketball games as well as Concert Band Festivals to compete as a group. We will also perform in concerts both during and after school. The spring semester also gives students opportunities to participate in individual music competitions and honor bands.

Travel

When the band travels, safety is the first priority. Students WILL NOT travel without a properly filled out medical form and form of consent. **Students will ride the bus together and will Only be allowed to ride home from an event with parents/legal guardian with a signed parent note given to the director at least 24 hours in advance.** Students are responsible for loading and unloading all equipment, music, and all parts of their uniform before they are dismissed after the performance.

Band Camp

Students should bring **water, sunscreen, snacks, and lunch** each day. During band camp students spend time both inside and outside preparing the halftime show.

Band Camp Dress Code

- T-shirts (tank tops must have straps with four finger width)
- Shorts (mid-thigh, or fingertip length) or pants (It will be HOT! Avoid jeans)
 - **Tennis shoes with socks**
 - Hats and sunglasses encouraged
 - Sunblock Required
- Water bottles (bonus if you can actually wear it) and snacks
 - Towel/rag



Remember Heat Safety!

- **Wear Sunscreen (spf 50 and up)**
- **Wear a hat or sunglasses**
- **Wear light colors and comfortable clothes**
- **Eat Breakfast (avoid dairy, sugary foods, and excessive caffeine)**
- **DRINK A LOT OF WATER (bring water bottles)**
- **Wear socks and tennis shoes**
- **Bring a wet rag to wear around your neck and shoulders**

(Do not wear wet rags or wet hats on your head, it will make you feel sick or pass out)

Smith County Fair Opening Ceremony Itinerary

The GHS Band performs in the Opening Ceremony of the **Smith County Fair on Monday, June 29th** at Smith County Fair Grounds. Students will **meet at the GHS band room at 2pm** to warm up and rehearse before the Fair. We will take a bus together to the fair grounds and perform at the opening ceremony. The opening ceremony begins at approximately 4:30pm.

Afterwards, the band students will be allowed to go enjoy the fair until approximately 8pm.

We will return to GHS at approximately 8 – 8:15 pm.

*If anyone wishes to pick their child up directly from the fair, or allow their child to remain at the fair unsupervised, they **MUST** turn in a signed parent note before we leave GHS.*

Otherwise, all students will ride the bus back to GHS at 8pm.

This policy is in place to ensure the safety of all students.

Band students will not need to pay to get into the fair, however, the cost of food, games, and rides will not be covered.

Summer Band Schedule



SC Fair Opening Ceremony June 29th 2pm – 8pm GHS
Wear a GHS Shirt we are taking a bus Bring \$ for food

Rehearsal July 7 and 9 5 – 7pm Guard - 6 – 8pm Winds - 5 – 8pm Percussion GHS

Dirt Day July 11 8 – 11am lunch provided 11-12 Everyone and their family too!
We clean and prepare the practice field and concession stand for the upcoming season!

Drumline and Guard Boot Camp July 13th and 14th 12pm – 4p GHS
Drum Major, Color Guard & Percussion only

Rookie Pre-Camp Wednesday July 15th 12pm – 4pm GHS
New Marchers and Leadership required. Everyone Welcome

Band Camp Thursday, July 16 – Friday, July 24 (No rehearsal on Saturday, Sunday, or Wednesday)

You will need...

*your instrument/equipment

*A pencil

*A Binder and Music

*Sunscreen

*Socks and tennis shoes (no sandals, flip flops, or crocs)

*A water bottle

*A Packed Lunch during Band Camp

Thursday 16	Friday 17	Monday 20	Tuesday 21	Thursday 23	Friday 24
8 am – 12pm	8 am – 12pm	8 am – 12pm	8 am – 12pm	8 am – 12pm	8 am – 12pm
Outside	Outside	Outside	Outside	Outside	Outside
12pm – 1pm	12pm – 1pm	12pm – 1pm	12pm – 1pm	12pm – 1pm	12pm – 1pm
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1pm - 4pm	1pm - 4pm Indoor	1pm - 4pm	1pm - 4pm	1pm - 4pm Indoor	1pm - 3pm Indoor
Indoor Music	Music Rehearsal	Indoor Music	Indoor Music	Music Rehearsal	Music Rehearsal
Rehearsal	4 pm – 6 pm	Rehearsal	Rehearsal	4 pm – 6 pm	3 pm Parent
4 pm – 6 pm	Outside	4 pm – 5 pm	4 pm – 6 pm	Outside	Performance at
Outside		Outside	Outside		GHS
					DCI Trip

Times are approximate and subject to change with weather or necessity. Dress up Days will be posted in the July Rehearsals.

Rehearsal July 28 and 30 5 – 8pm Everyone GHS

Rehearsal August 4 and 6 5 – 8pm Everyone GHS

After School rehearsals will begin August 11 and 13 from 3 – 5:30 every Tuesday and Thursday

GHS Football Schedule 2026

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opponent</u>	<u>Location</u>
<i>August 21</i>	<i>Coalfield</i>	Home
August 28	Watertown	<i>Away</i>
<i>September 4</i>	<i>Fayetteville</i>	Home
September 11	Liberty Creek	<i>Away</i>
<i>September 18</i>	<i>Cannon Co.</i>	Home
<i>September 25</i>	<i>Jackson Co.</i>	Home
<i>October 2</i>	<i>Westmoreland</i>	Home
October 9	Trousdale	<i>Away</i>
<i>No Game on October 16th Fall Break Week</i>		
October 23	Red Boiling Springs	<i>Away</i>
October 30	Smith Co.	<i>Away</i>
November 6 and on	Play Offs	TBA

Competitions will be held on 3 to 4 Saturdays beginning August 29th and potentially lasting through October 11th. An exact schedule will be made available at a later date when the competition schedules are confirmed. The Upper Cumberland Exhibition is August 29th, NPMI is September 12th, YJMI is September 26th, Bandapalooza is Oct. 3rd and TSBA State is usually November 7th.

The marching band also performs at the Fair Opening Ceremony, Gordonsville vs SC Tailgate, Homecoming Parade, Veteran's Day Parade, and Christmas Parades.

The schedule is subject to change due to weather and changes made by the board of education.

Gordonsville High School Band Calendar

JULY 2026						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29 SC Fair Opening Ceremony Call time 2pm	30	1	2	3	4 Independence Day
5	6	7 Drumline/ Color Guard Rehearsal 5 – 8pm Band Rehearsal 6 - 8pm	8	9 Drumline/ Color Guard Rehearsal 5 – 8pm Band Rehearsal 6 - 8pm	10	11 Dirt Day 8 – 11am Lunch after!
12	13 Drumline/ Color Guard Camp 12 – 4 pm	14 Drumline/ Color Guard Camp 12 – 4 pm	15 Rookie/ Leadership Camp 12 – 4 pm	16 Band Camp (everyone) 8am – 6pm	17 Band Camp 8am – 6pm	18
19	20 Band Camp 8am – 6pm	21 Band Camp 8am – 6pm	22	23 Band Camp 8am – 6pm	24 Band Camp 8am – 4pm Parent Performance 3pm DCI Field Trip	25
26	27	28 Band Rehearsal 5 - 8pm	29	30 Band Rehearsal 5 - 8pm	31	1

2026-2027 School Calendar

July 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

October 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Smith County Schools
 126 SCMS LN, Carthage, TN, 37030
 615-735-9625
 smithcoedu.net

Aug. 3- Inservice Day
 Aug. 4- Admin Day
 Aug. 5- Half Day
 Aug. 6- Inservice Day
 Aug. 7- Admin Day
 Aug. 10- First Full Day
 Sept. 7- No School
 Oct. 12-16- Fall Break
 Oct. 8 & 22- Parent Teacher Conferences
 Nov. 3- PD Day (No Students)
 Nov. 23-27- Thanksgiving Break
 Dec. 18- Half Day
 Dec. 21- Jan. 1- Christmas Break
 Jan. 4- Admin Day (No Students)
 Jan. 5- First Day Back from Christmas Break
 Jan. 18- No School
 Feb. 15- No School
 March 22-29- Spring Break
 May 27- Admin Day (No Students)
 May 28- Last Full Day of School
 May 29- Half Day

School Months	Days
8/5-9/3	20 Student days 179
9/4-10/2	20 Holidays 10
10/3-11/6	20 Inservice days 2
11/7-12/11	20 Optional Inservice 3
12/12-1/26	20 Admin Days 4
1/27-2/24	20 P/T Conferences 1
2/25-4/1	20 Stockpile PD Day 1
4/2-4/29	20 200
4/30-5/28	20 180

January 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

March 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

May 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 2027

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Mid Nine Weeks

Sept. 2, 2025

Nov. 18, 2025

Feb. 3, 2026

April 20, 2026

End of Nine Week Reports

Oct. 1, 2025

Dec. 18, 2025

March 9, 2026

May 26, 2026

Report Cards

Oct. 6, 2025

Jan. 7, 2026

March 16, 2026

May 28, 2026

School Closed
 Half Day

Administrative/In-service Day (no school for students)
 Report Cards

First & Last Day of School
 Parent Teacher Conferences

Band Commitment Form



Student Name _____

Grade (26/27 school year) _____ T-shirt Size _____

Instrument/Guard _____ Shoe Size _____

Student Cell Phone # (if any) _____

Parents/Guardian Names _____

Address _____

Phone # _____ Secondary Phone # _____

Email Address _____

I will attend... (please check)

- ☐ Opening Ceremony Smith Co. Fair Monday June 29th, call time 2pm GHS, ETA back to GHS 8pm
- ☐ Rehearsal July 7 and 9
- ☐ Drum Line and Color Guard Boot Camp July 14 and 15, 12 – 4pm (percussion & Guard only)
- ☐ Rookie pre-camp July 16, 12 – 4pm (Leaders and New Marchers only/ all are welcome)
- ☐ Band Camp July 17 - 24, 8am -6pm
- ☐ DCI Field Trip July 24th
- ☐ Rehearsal July 28 and 30, 5 – 8pm
- ☐ Rehearsal August 4 and 6, 5 – 8pm

If you are unable to attend anything, please leave a short note and speak to Mrs. Brown about the absence. Please keep in mind that every moment of rehearsal time is important and every member of the band is valuable and necessary for a successful season.

I understand that Marching Band is a Major Commitment, and that my (student) attendance is expected with the return of this form. I have read and agree to the policies outlined in the band handbook. My Family and I have put thought into this decision and will commit to marching the 2026 season. *I understand that failure to attend or removal from this group will result in financial liability for any shirts, uniform, equipment, ect... purchased for me (student) by the band in the 2026 season.*

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Date

Gordonsville High School Band Medical Release 2026 - 2027

(please print clearly)

Student Information

Student name _____ gender _____ grade _____

birth date _____ home address _____

city: _____ Zip _____ home phone _____

Parent/Guardian Information (if different from above)

Guardian Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone () _____

Cell Phone () _____ email _____

Additional Guardian Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone () _____

Cell Phone () _____ email _____

Alternate Emergency Contact

Name _____ Relationship _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Student Health Information

Does the student have any chronic health issues? () yes () no If yes please provide details regarding chronic health issues _____

Does the student have any allergies? () yes () no

If yes please provide details regarding allergy issues

Does the student use an EpiPen? () yes () no

Does the student use an Inhaler? () yes () no

Does the student take any regular medication? () yes () no

If yes please list medications _____

Phone _____

Health Insurance Provider _____

Policy # _____ Phone _____

Primary Care Physician _____ phone () _____

Please list any other information the directors should know _____

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I, the undersigned parent or guardian of:

Student Name _____ Birth Date _____

I hereby grant authorization to the band directors and/or band booster representative(s) of the Gordonsville High School Band standing in loco parentis to obtain any emergency medical and/or surgical procedures from a physician or hospital emergency room physician on behalf of the above-named student. I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the band directors, staff, or chaperone of the Gordonsville High School Band for any and all claims, demands, actions, rights of action, and/or judgments by or on behalf of the above-named student arising from or on account of said procedures and/or treatment rendered in good faith and according to accepted medical standards. I assume the total financial responsibility for the above-named member and will not hold the band directors or Gordonsville High School responsible in the event of a medical emergency.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Name printed _____

TRANSPORTATION / RELEASE OF LIABILITY

I give permission to my child, _____ to accompany or participate in all the Gordonsville High School Band activities. I understand that by my signature below, I waive all claims of liability in case of accident, illness, or occurrence against the Smith County School System, its staff, and trip chaperones.

The person herein described has permission to engage in all prescribed activities. I also assure all responsibility, accountability, and liability for any acts arising from the actions of my child. This permission includes the right to ride in a school bus or private vehicle.

In the event that I cannot be reached in an emergency, I hereby give permission to the physician selected by the teacher in charge to hospitalize, or to give emergency care to my child.

Parent or Legal Guardian Print

Parent or Legal Guardian Signature

Date

Person to contact if I cannot be reached:

Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Phone: _____

Thank you for reading this handbook, for your support of its contents, and especially for the opportunity to work with your sons and daughters! Our organization can reach its potential only if we have your active support. Parent involvement and interest in their child's growth can be the single most important factor in their total education. Through your actions, you can show your child that you care about his/her musical development.

Gordonsville High School Band Meeting

Welcome to the Gordonsville High School Marching Band! I have been so excited to prepare for this upcoming school year and marching season. There will be a **Parent Meeting at 5pm in the GHS Band Room on Monday, May 18th** to meet new students and parents, discuss booster roles and fundraising, and answer questions about band. I hope to see everyone there!

I look forward to seeing everyone this summer, and for getting the opportunity to work with this amazing group of young people. One of my favorite things about band is the fact that each and every member is an important and necessary part of the team. In order for us to succeed and grow, we must all work together to reach our goals. Please make the utmost effort to attend everything and help us make this the best year ever for the GHS Band. Have a GREAT Summer!

Musically Yours,

Tiffanii Brown
TBrown3@smithcoedu.net