

Willowcreek Middle School Bands Disclosure 2025-2026

Brian Crosby, *Band Director*: bcrosby@alpinedistrict.org

Course Titles: Beginning Brass, Beginning Woodwinds, Symphonic Band, Beginning Percussion, Intermediate Percussion, Advanced Percussion, Wind Symphony, Intermediate Jazz Band, Advanced Jazz Band

Welcome to the Willowcreek Middle School Band Program! I am so excited to work with each of you this upcoming school year! We are going to have a ton of fun and make some incredible sounds together. Here are a few things to help you get started on the right track. As always, if you have any questions please feel free to reach out or come talk to me at any time.

****Remind****

Very important. Mr. Crosby uses Remind as his major form of communication. Please take a minute to download the Remind App and then sign your student up for their appropriate class/classes

Beginning Band Text: @wmsbb2526 to the number 81010

Symphonic Band (including Int. Perc) Text: @wmssb2526 to the number 81010

Wind Symphony (including Adv. Perc) Text: @wmsws2526 to the number 81010

Int/Advanced Percussion (also sign up for your appropriate concert band) Text: @wmsap2526 to the number 81010

Advanced Jazz Band (also sign up for your regular band class): Text @wmsajb2526 to the number 81010 **Intermediate Jazz Band (2nd semester only):** Text @wmsijb2526 to the number 81010

RECOMMENDED BAND SUPPLIES

Please take a minute and view our updated recommended band supplies list by instrument.: **Epecially those who are now moving up to Wind Symphony or Advanced Jazz.** This list also includes upgraded equipment that the kids will appreciate as they get older and better..

[2025-2026 Willowcreek Recommended Band Supplies List](#)

CLASSROOM SUPPLIES

- Instrument and appropriate supplies (see link above) i.e. valve oil, slide grease, reeds, (reed players should have a box of reeds in their case at all times.
- Band Binder (Black Preferred) ½ inch. dedicated to band only.
- Pencil
- Recommended Band Method Book
 - Beginning Band:**
 - Essential Elements Book 1
 - Beginning Percussion: Essential Elements Book 1 for Oboe, A Fresh Approach to Snare by Wessels
 - Symphonic Band:**
 - Essential Elements Book 1, Essential Elements Book 2
 - Wind Symphony WW and Brass:**
 - Essential Elements Book 2, **Foundations for a Superior Performance by Jeff King (new if in Symphonic Last Year)**
 - Int/Adv Percussion:**
 - Intermediate and Advanced Percussion: Essential Elements Book 2 for Oboe, Wessels A Fresh Approach to Snare

BAND FEES

There is a band participation fee of \$15 per band student per semester including Jazz Band. Percussion classes have a fee of \$50 per semester which includes their class fee and percussion instrument usage fee.

INSTRUMENT RENTAL FEES

- Students who use school instruments are expected to pay a district mandated fee of now \$150 per year. There are payment plans available in the office if you are using a school instrument and need to pay more gradually.
- Please contact Mr. Crosby to arrange rentals for larger/ more expensive instruments, ie Euphoniums, French Horns, Tubas, etc. **Rental Forms for school instruments are due at the time you take your instrument.**

[Online Instrument Rental Form](#)

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

- Do not talk or make sounds while the teacher is working
- Have a positive attitude and the desire to do your best
- Come prepared for rehearsal with your part practiced, and with your pencil, music, instrument, and supplies
- Be respectful of others and their equipment

HOME EXPECTATIONS

Playing an instrument is a lot of fun but takes a habit of daily practice to really succeed. Effective practice is all about consistency working toward personal daily and personal long term goals. Practice Records will be due on Canvas every Monday each week. Students are asked to practice at least the following amounts:

- Beginning Band Woodwinds and Brass: at least 10 minutes, 5 days per week
- Symphonic Band Woodwinds and Brass,, Beginning Percussion: at least 15 minutes, 5 days per week average
- Wind Symphony, Intermediate Percussion, Advanced Percussion: at least 20 minutes, 5 days per week average

GRADES

- Dedicated participation in class, sectionals, and concerts
- Playing Tests (about 2 per term. Percussion typically have 1 per week).
- Practice Records
- **Playing Tests** Students will be given regular playing tests. Students who are not proficient on a test are encouraged to retest electronically, after school, or in person during pass-off time in class.
- **Extra Rehearsals:** *Each of the concert bands will have about 2 extra combined rehearsals before each concert to combine with the percussion (ie winds + brass + percussion). These will usually take place on Friday during Pride-Time, late bus Tuesdays, and/or B days at 7:00am.*
- **Wind Symphony Sectionals:** because the Wind Symphony has been chosen to perform at the UMEA Conference in St. George, we will be doing more frequent sectionals. UMEA is a lot of fun but is a huge deal. Typically bands that play perform 6-7 songs at the performance.

Each section will meet 1x per week during pride time and 2-4x (2 sectionals and possibly other combined rehearsals which would cause them to need to be there 3-4 times per month in the mornings at 7:00am.)

CONCERTS

Please check the included schedule and put it on your family calendar. Concerts are a great time to celebrate our progress and perform music together. If there is a scheduling issue or a serious issue that comes up, please talk to Mr. Crosby as far in advance as possible so he can have that part covered if necessary..

CONCERT ATTIRE

Concerts are “**dress-up occasions**”. Avoid short skirts, Levis, shorts, t-shirts, flip-flops, and grubby shoes.

Beginning Band, Beginning Percussion:

- **Ladies:** dress/skirts that are definitely below the knee. Female members may also wear nice slacks and a blouse if preferred over a dress.
- **Gentleman:** Ties, slacks, a button up shirt, and black socks are required for all male members.

Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, Int Jazz, Advanced Jazz & all Int/Advanced Percussion Classes

- **Ladies:** All black. Black skirts and dresses must be below the knee and follow the school dress code guidelines. Ladies should wear black nylons if they are wearing a skirt or dress. Ladies may also wear black slacks and black top if preferred. Black dress shoes - avoid open toed shoes & flip-flops.
- **Gentlemen** should wear black button-up shirts, black slacks, black socks, and black dress shoes. Matching ties will be handed out at concerts.

Concert Schedule 2025-2026 Please review and mark on your calendar.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1l-rozZ61oiF813MwCl_cidMsCyIrebVAV2vG8yw02kk/edit?usp=sharing