

# Scotland High School Performance Ensembles Program Handbook

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*Revised 2025 Edition*



## Preface

This handbook outlines the Scotland High School Performance Ensembles (Band Program) along with its policies, rules, and regulations. The program includes the Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Jazz Band, Marching Band, and Winter Guard unit(s).

Band members are required to follow all policies of both the Scotland County Public School System and the Band Program. School rules and policies are in effect at all times when a member is directly or indirectly involved in any activity sponsored by or associated with Scotland High School. In cases of conflict, school policy takes precedence over band policy. Band directors have the authority to suspend or amend any band policy when necessary for the best interest of the overall program.

## Objectives of the Band Program

The Scotland High School Band is an integral part of school life and one of the largest and most active student organizations on campus. Its primary objectives are:

- Cultural – To encourage the appreciation and understanding of music through the study and performance of quality works.
- Educational – To develop discerning listeners, provide a well-rounded musical education, and prepare members for future musical endeavors.
- Service – To enhance school and community events while promoting the dignity and reputation of Scotland High School.
- Citizenship – To foster teamwork, responsibility, and positive interaction, preparing students to be responsible members of the community.
- Recreational – To provide opportunities for meaningful leisure activity, personal expression, and positive social experiences.

## Band Program Options

- Concert Bands – Students enroll in band as a class during the school day. Options include Concert Band and Symphonic Band. Symphonic Band students receive honors credit.
- Marching Band – The Pride of Scotland County is a competitive ensemble. Students must commit in the spring prior to the marching season and enroll in a band class.
- Jazz Ensemble – The Plaid Notes meet after school and perform at school, county, and state events. Membership is by director invitation.
- Guard – Membership in Color Guard or Winter Guard is by audition.

## Concert Band / Symphonic Band

Although the Marching Band performs often, the concert band is central to the band program. This is when the majority of musical training occurs.

Bands are evaluated annually through the Music Performance Adjudication (MPA). Placement in Concert or Symphonic Band is determined by ability and program needs at the discretion of the director. Concerts at Scotland High School are well-attended community events that showcase challenging repertoire. Families are encouraged to attend.

## Marching Band – The Pride of Scotland County

Description – A competitive, state-of-the-art ensemble representing Scotland High, Scotland Early College, Spring Hill, and Carver Middle (8th grade by recommendation).

**Goals** – To provide students with advanced opportunities in performance, design, leadership, and competition.

**Membership** – Enrollment in a concert ensemble (spring) and the Marching Band/Symphonic class (fall) is required. Guard and Percussion require auditions.

**Sections** – Horn Line, Guard, Percussion, Drum Major.

**Rehearsals** – Mandatory Band Camp (July–August), school-year rehearsals (Tues/Thurs 3–6 PM), sectionals, and extra rehearsals.

**Performances** – Required at football games, parades, and competitions. Uniforms include a white oxford shirt and marching shoes (\$45).

## Fair Share

Participation requires a contribution of \$250 (excluding uniform items). This may be paid in full, through fundraising, or a combination.

Fundraising opportunities include:

- Concession Stands – Full-shift work at JV/Varsity games or seasonal events.
- Band Booster Cards
- Gas RaffleFull
- Fruit/Poinsettia
- Snap Raise
- Mattress

## Forms

All students must have the following forms completed by a parent/guardian:

- Student Information Form
- Marching Band Commitment Form
- Uniform Agreement Letter
- Color Guard Contract

## Band Boosters

The Scotland High School Band Boosters is a volunteer parent organization supporting all ensembles through fundraising and logistics. Meetings are held monthly on the first Monday at 7:00 PM in the band room.

Parent support is essential for competitions, trips, and football games. Booster responsibilities include serving on the board, voting on matters, and assisting with events. All policy decisions remain the responsibility of the directors; the Boosters' role is to supplement and support.

