

FAQs:

Marching Band @ Football Games (FG)...

FG1a:

Q) Are all marching band expected to attend Westview's home football games?

A) Yes! These are graded events, and if your student cannot attend, they will need to contact the band directors for a makeup assignment.

FG1b:

Q) What will my student be expected to do for marching band at the football games?

A) All marching band (both competitive and noncompetitive are marching band) stays after school on home game Fridays to rehearse from 3:30 to 4:30pm for the half time field show. They are usually excused by 4:30pm to go eat dinner, usually with sections and other Gold friends, walking to Rubios, Pick-up-Stix, Subway, etc., before having to return to the band room by 5:30pm to clean up, change, and get into formation to go out onto the stadium. While students can bring their own dinner, most go with their friends and purchase food. There is not enough time for them to go home to eat. Students walk behind the school around to the stadium to go up to the reserved Gold seating area to sit with their sections. They will play various stand tunes and the fight song throughout the game. When down to about 5 minutes of 2nd quarter (of four quarters), all marching band & color guard will rise to go down to the field for their half time field show, and immediately return to their stadium seats afterwards to play for the rest of the game. After the game, all marching band march back to the band room via the main stadium entrance. The drum major/majorette will guide them to wind down outside the band room commons, then they are dismissed to go into the band room to change & put instruments away, and finally released to go home! You can meet your students in the band room, or wait for them at a designated spot.

FG2:

Q) Do all marching band members, competitive and non-competitive students, wear the same uniforms?

A) Yes!

FG3a:

Q) What are "travel" uniforms and regular "marching performance" uniforms? When will they be wearing them? Do parents purchase or are they supplied by the school?

A) Travel uniforms consist of Westview Gold polos, beige unisex board shorts, black Dinkles (marching band shoes), and white ankle length socks, self purchased by every family for their student. They are casual uniforms for the warmer hot weather events, such as the initial hotter weather home football games, Poway Days Parade, and what the band directors instruct them to wear for a specific event.

The marching performance uniforms are school provided, purchased by the district, assigned to each member, and kept with the band program, at school sites. Students supply their own Dinkles (the marching band shoes) & above the ankle/higher length black socks, and black tee & black compression (bike) shorts to wear under the uniforms. They are worn at the remaining home football games, for all tournament competitions, and other special events. Band dads and/or moms/other volunteers will arrange transport of the uniforms to tournaments, Disneyland, and any other away events.

FG3b:

Q) How do I purchase the travel uniform? When do I purchase a travel uniform?

A) Everything is ordered through the Gold website (<http://www.westviewgold.org/Donations-Webstore>), and sample sizes are available with the uniform parent lead(s) to get correct sizing. Most marching band

members had their sizing fitted during summer band camp, with those not attending being fitted at the start of school. Some incoming 8th graders placed their travel uniform orders after looking at samples available during the May band meeting, but most families, concerned with growth spurts, order during band camp. If you weren't able to place an order by mid-summer you can expect late arrival, possibly not for the first home football game. All orders go directly to Westview to be delivered to your student.

FG3c:

Q) What if my student does not have a travel uniform yet?

A) Best to directly contact the uniform parent lead(s) (wvguniforms@gmail.com) ASAP as they have a few loaners on polos & shorts, but first come, first served. However, Dinkles for loan are rare, only a few donated used ones available. Until your ordered Dinkles arrive, you can substitute with all black tennies-- they must be all black, even black soles, nothing white nor even a little of other colors!!! Target sells all black women's tennies for about \$16. Skechers stores (many locations around San Diego county) carry all black men's and women's tennies averaging \$40~\$50. Or shop through Amazon, especially to search options for men's. Regular black dress shoes are not a permanent substitute, and also not comfortable for the kids to wear when marching.

FG3d:

Q) When will they start wearing the regular marching performance uniforms?

A) With San Diego having warmer weather August through October, also being our typical wildfire season, the marching performance uniforms are usually worn by the third home game, as the weather is less hot. They are always worn at competition tournaments.

FG4a:

Q) Could I volunteer for a marching band event? Do they even need non-comp parents' help?

A) Yes to both! Football game chaperoning is a great way for non-comp parents to get involved since their students don't go to tournament competitions. All Gold families are expected to volunteer to help cover the numerous aspects of operating a school music program, and non-comp families are asked to commit 30 hours.

FG4b:

Q) How many hours do I need to commit for game chaperoning? And, what am I expected to do?

A) Parents are asked to arrive by 5:30pm to band room and return with marching band to the band room after the game, finishing by 10pm. Chaperones help all marching band put on uniforms, settle into lines, and walk with them onto the stadium starting 6pm, then stand along each side of the stairs to help maintain safety, order, and chaperone to & back from the restrooms (many will need help with undoing uniforms). All parent chaperones get into the game for free! Contact wvggoldvolunteers@gmail.com for information.

FG5:

Q) Are the section leader(s) emails important even to non-comp members?

A) Yes, while not everything applies to non-comps, there is information that will help your member and family know what is going on and what to expect regarding upcoming things.

FG6:

Q) My student does not seem to know what is going on?

A) New marching band members (and even seasoned ones) will easily get overwhelmed with all the new routines and nuances of working together in a big band program. There are so many things to learn and even changes from year to year, so it's best that your student: a) read the announcements posted daily

on the computer as well as the white board in class, and/or take pictures via their smartphone of the boards for assignments & announcements made during band class; b) regularly check online for the director's announcements to double check if they got it all at <http://www.westviewgold.org/> (these are the same computer based announcements shown in class); c) ask questions to their section leader(s), executive student officers, and/or post via Gold's Facebook page to get much needed quick response. When all else fails student would go to their band director(s).

-Kelly and Anita