

Chaperone Responsibilities

Be sure to have your background check filled out and turned in prior to any trip with the students.

Your biggest responsibility is to be sure the students have their knee-high black socks and marching shoes on prior to loading the bus. Students may not get onto the bus until the socks are on their feet.

Profanity is not allowed in this setting by students especially while in uniform. Just a quick reminder of “hey, watch your mouth” is usually all it takes. They just need a gentle reminder occasionally.

Displays of affection by band students need to be kept to a minimum. When riding the bus, be on the lookout for any students sharing a blanket, etc. If you are uncomfortable with the situation, others probably are too. Again, just a gentle reminder is all it takes. Something simple like “let’s make a little room” usually will get the point across.

If something happens with inappropriate behavior with a student, and you feel comfortable handling the situation, please do so. However, if you are uncomfortable handling that situation, please notify Mr. Stout or Ms. Welton. They will be glad to handle it.

Sometimes it’s okay to let something go and deal with it later.

Please conduct a head count of students prior to leaving the school parking lot. Whatever bus the student rides to the competition must be ridden back. Please notify Mr. Stout, Mike Schwartz, or Ms. Welton if your count is off when the bus is boarded to return home. Sometimes students do go home with parents, and Mr. Stout will know this. We do not want to leave a student behind.

There is no eating on the bus.

Please get up and do a quick check occasionally to observe activities on the bus. We do not want students putting body parts out the windows or throwing things out the windows.

When the bus returns to the school, it is generally the section leaders’ responsibility to make sure everything has been picked up from the floors. After they do this, please make one last sweep of the bus to be sure we have left it in the same condition as we got it.

Please have fun!! These are great kids, and we rarely have issues with them. They are all testing the boundaries a little bit, but they will respect your authority. Being a chaperone is one of the best ways to get to know the students and get to see what the band is truly all about. Thank you for your decision to volunteer.