

## **Marching Band Uniforms – What Do I Wear?** **What happens on game day?**

The marching band uniform consists of: black band polo, bib (pants), jacket, cape, hat (called a “shako”), gloves, black calf-length socks, and black marching shoes. There are also raincoats. Uniforms are assigned during Band Camp by the uniform manager. The bib, jacket, cape, hat, gloves, and coats are kept in the uniform room, which is located just around the corner from the band room. Uniforms are not to be kept at home.

On game day, the band arrives a half-hour before departure to change into their uniform. It is advisable to arrive early. The uniform volunteers are there at all times to assist with uniforms. The Director makes the decision on which parts of the uniform will be worn that day (if it’s expected to be rainy we will use raincoats, for example) and that information is posted at the door to the uniform room.

If it is an away game, the band will dress in their bibs, socks, and shoes, and put the rest of their uniform in a garment bag, which is provided.

Every marching band member has an assigned uniform that is numbered; they also have an assigned hat, raincoat, and garment bag with the same number.

Street clothes are worn under the marching band uniform- this is for comfort, warmth, and also because everyone changes together in the uniform room. Appropriate clothing to wear under the uniform consists of: t-shirt or long-sleeved shirt (under the band polo), and comfortable pants or shorts (jeans are usually not very comfortable under the bibs). Tank tops will not be allowed without the band polo worn over the top. Please take into consideration warmth and layers as it can get particularly cold during marching band season sitting in the stands. Thermals, athletic attire, and under armour are good to wear.

Shoes can be kept in their shoebox in the uniform room with the assigned uniform, or taken home. It is up to the marching band member to keep track of and maintain their shoes, black socks, and band polo. It is helpful to keep black socks in your instrument case if the size of your case permits.

Hats and Gloves: are maintained by the uniform volunteers.

The uniforms themselves are maintained and cared for by the uniform volunteers, which includes dry-cleaning arrangements. This is a time consuming and expensive task. It is asked that all marching band members take pride and care in their assigned uniform – hanging up their gear neatly, and never dragging their uniform or garment bags on the ground. Please be mindful of keeping all uniforms in their assigned spot in the uniform room.