**Dues**

Dues help pay for the cost of staff, show design, team registration, band camp lodging, equipment, props, etc. Dues are non-refundable after August 1, 2018, and will not be returned to members who are dismissed or quit the Marching Band Program. There are an incredible amount of fundraisers the Southgate Band Boosters provide to help with funding these costs. A student may not enter into our Program until all debts from previous school related activities have been paid in full. We must have a deposit of $425 (see Application for details) by June 1, 2018 to get a part in the show.

**Parades**

The Southgate Anderson Marching Band does its best to support the surrounding communities by performing in area parades. In doing so, we promote the professionalism and success of our program. All members are required to perform in all Parades. If you do not participate in the parades you will not perform at events such as Band-A-Rama, etc. If you cannot make the parade, a written note from your parent will need to be provided to Mr. Walter at least two weeks in advance. [walterb@sgate.k12.mi.us](file:///\\hob3s01\aobusers$\p29784\band%202016\FORMS\2017%20forms\walterb@sgate.k12.mi.us)

**Southgate Anderson Home Football Games**

The Marching Band is a huge part of each and every home football game at Southgate Anderson High School. The Administration and School Board do a great job of supporting our program, as well as the Staff of each School and its Athletics. We do the same by supporting the Football team at all home events. All members are required to perform at every home football game. Failure to do so may affect the Students role in our competitive program.

**Rehearsals**

Some rehearsals deviate from the "normally” scheduled practices due to Holidays, School functions, etc. We may also use the high school or football stadium if circumstances allow. Attendance at all rehearsals is **MANDATORY**. If a student misses any practice before a scheduled performance, he/she may not be allowed to participate in that performance, even if the absences are school related. This is for the safety of the student, and those near that student. Those who follow the rules will be rewarded with performing. Those who do not follow the rules will be disciplined as necessary. **Attendance is required at every rehearsal and performance**. Your role in this competitive program may be altered if you miss one or multiple rehearsals at the discretion of the staff. Contact Mr. Walter well in advance for any potential excused absence by email only. **Facebook/text** posts will not be honored as excused. [walterb@sgate.k12.mi.us](file:///\\hob3s01\aobusers$\p29784\band%202016\FORMS\2017%20forms\walterb@sgate.k12.mi.us)

**Discipline**

School disciplinary action, such as suspension from school, will be carried into the Marching Band Program and will result in unexcused absences.

**Being a Team Player**

By seeking membership into this program, you are committing to be a hardworking, optimistic and dedicated member of this team. It is expected that you give your very best at every rehearsal and performance. It is expected that you respect every member and staff member of this program, not to mention the Parent and other volunteers who freely give their time in our support. You are not to speak poorly of any other member of the Band. It is important to remember that we are all on the same team working toward our common goal.

**Conditioning**

All members will condition throughout the season. This is not optional. It helps prepare our bodies for the duration of the season and performing at a high level through our 8 minute competitive show. If you can march the show, you can condition with the rest of the band.

**Equipment**

All School issued equipment will be treated and dealt with in the highest respect, as all money that goes towards purchasing and fixing instruments is fundraised. Each student is required to bring their equipment to every rehearsal and performance, making sure everything is in working order. If anything gets damaged and is in need of repair, please report it immediately. Equipment expected for each performer includes: personal instrument, school supplied instrument/equipment, pencils, music, dot book, proper attire, etc.

**Facebook/Twitter/Instagram/YouTube/other Social Media**

While we will use these avenues on a daily basis, it is necessary to be responsible in their use with regard to our Program. If you have an issue, personal or otherwise, regarding the Southgate Winter Guard Program, it is expected that you do NOT include everyone in cyberspace when airing these concerns. Rather, concerns should be brought to the attention of the person it concerns directly. Let’s face our challenges and not “Facebook them!” Negative comments about another member of the guard, parents, volunteers, chaperones, staff, etc. will not be tolerated and will result in dismissal from the program. Members/Family members are NOT to post any rehearsal or performance videos on YouTube or any other website. Any and all posts will be made by the Director or staff. This social media policy applies to ALL social media outlets--including, but not limited to: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, Sarahah, and GroupMe.

We do utilize a few Facebook Groups: search for Southgate Marching Band Program. This is to help share information to the membership and to our fans. This group is not intended for questions, concerns, or any negative comments. Should you have any concerns, contact a Director or staff member. We intend to use this group for positive, information sharing purposes AND celebrating our teams!

**Grades**

Each member is responsible for maintaining passing grades throughout the season. Failing grades will prohibit the student from performing and could result in them not being able to attend practices. The Director receives an email each week, including the names of students with unacceptable grades. We understand that schooling should take priority, however it is important that each student find a routine that allows him/her to achieve passing grades in school without interfering with the set schedule of the Band.

**School Apparel/Uniform**

While in school apparel or in uniform, you are representing this program, this staff, the school, the community and each other. Each of you will conduct yourselves in a professional manner while representing the Southgate Anderson Marching Band.