



Pebblebrook High School Band

Falconette Student & Parent Handbook

The Falconettes is the band auxiliary unit of the Mighty Marching Machine. The Falconettes present complementary color and choreography to enhance the music and general effect of the halftime show and other band performances. We pride ourselves on teaching more than just band. We teach Discipline, Leadership, Self Esteem, Grace, Respect, and TeamWork. The Falconettes are highly visible on the school campus and in the community; therefore, high standards and appropriate conduct are essential.

As representatives of PHS band, Falconettes will be expected to maintain a higher standard of behavior than that of their peers; both on and off campus and in or out of uniform. Falconettes have a greater responsibility to achieve these expectations at all times.

Academics:

High academic achievement is expected for all Falconettes. Students are encouraged to study and complete homework assignments daily after leaving band rehearsals. If a Falconette is having trouble in an academic class, they should immediately sign-up for tutoring sessions from the instructor of that specific class. Falconettes failing academic courses may be sat down from weekly rehearsals and/or performances until their grades show improvement.

Health and Fitness :

All Falconettes must complete the Cobb County School District Medical Release form IFCB-5 at the start of the band season. Flags/dance are rigorous activities and all participants are required to be in top physical condition. Students with serious health problems that are aggravated by exercise which limit full participation should be cleared by a physician before resuming band activity. All Falconettes are considered athletes expected to condition to a level to benefit not only themselves, but the auxiliary team and the band as one unit.

Fundraising:

Fundraising is a necessity to ensure the band program functions at its most efficient level financially. Although band students pay fees, those alone do not cover the entire operating expenses of the band. It is our expectation all Falconettes do their “fair share” and participate whole-heartedly in the band fundraisers.

PHS Band Booster:

The Band Booster is a voluntary parent organization which is vital to the overall success of our band program. Parents affiliated with the band booster assist the band by performing specific influential tasks. All PHS band parents are encouraged to be involved with the band boosters throughout the school year. Be sure to attend the monthly Band Booster meetings to stay current on relevant parent information. Band students are to be respectful at all times to band booster members and any other parent volunteers assisting the band program.

Communication:

- BAND App Falconette Parents



- BAND App Falconette Students



- Facebook/Instagram - @pebblebrookbands

Guidelines and Expectations:

All Falconettes must attend Falconette Camp (July 10th - 14th - 5pm-8pm), Band Camp (July 17th - 21st 8am-6pm and July 25th-27th 5pm-8pm). Camp will be held at Pebblebrook High School in the Band Room.

- Uniform and Dress Code ~ Falconettes will be required to wear all parts of the uniform or practice gear, including proper shoes and undergarments.
- There will be no putting on makeup, doing hair or changing on the field, court, or stadium. (The coaches/sponsor will determine what uniforms will be worn for performances)
- Studded earrings are the only piece of jewelry allowed at practice. Assigned game day jewelry will be distributed by the Coaches.
- Nails must be kept at a short length and a solid, neutral color (brown, nude, or light pink).
- Hair must be natural color and in the appropriate style assigned by the Coaches. Bright hair colors (blonde, red, orange, blue, yellow, purple, etc.) and braids/twists are not acceptable. We are a team and must look like a team.
- Each student should have all needed items at all rehearsals/performances.

Practice Days:

1) You must be on time to practice. Falconettes should report to the bandroom by 3:45 PM (non PA) and 4:20 PM (PA). Students should report to practice already dressed in practice attire. PA students must report to practice immediately after the dismissal of PA.

2) Assigned attire must be worn to practice daily. (black bottoms, white t-shirts, supportive black sports bra, jazz shoes/sneakers). Shorts must be at least 6 inches above the knee. The shirts must be plain white with no graphics, and all jewelry is prohibited during rehearsals.

3) Thursdays or the day prior to a performance are mandatory rehearsals for all band members. Students who have an unexcused absence on the day before a performance will result in limited participation in the upcoming performance or event.

FALCONETTE MUST HAVES

These items are not included in auxiliary fees as these are personal items

These items are non-negotiable as these will be worn to practice and on game day

1. Black Razor Back Sports bra ONLY
2. Diamond Stud Earrings (Game Day)
3. Hair Expectations: Hairstyles will be determined by the coaches/sponsor prior to each game or event. All Falconettes are expected to have the same hairstyles on game or event day. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Behaviors and Expectations:

- * Above all, Falconettes will abide by all school rules.
- * Be dressed out and ready in the band room by 3:45PM (non PA) and 4:20PM (PA) for rehearsals.
- * The use of cell phones, i-pods, or other electronic devices during practices, games, or other events will not be allowed.
- * Will not eat during practices, games, or events unless given permission by the coach/sponsor (this includes gum)
- * Will be focused and on task
- * Will be respectful of themselves and others
- * Will maintain a positive and outgoing attitude when performing
- * Will be responsible for their actions and attitudes during rehearsals and performances
- * No profanity at **any time**
- * Will refrain from inappropriate displays of affection, especially in uniform or band wear at games and school
- * Will represent the school in a positive manner on and off campus
- * Will always give the task at hand 100%, and without complaint

Students not meeting the above expectations may result in limited participation in the upcoming performance or event.

Effort

Being a member of the PHS Band requires a major commitment from Falconettes and their families. Success requires many hours of work from each member. Our goals include developing as an individual and as a team. These goals take no less than 100% effort from each member to reach. Therefore, it is important for members to understand the necessity of giving 100% at all times.

Band Calendar

Calendars are essential! **An event calendar is located on the PHS Marching Band Website (<https://www.pebblebrookbands.com/calendar>).** It is the member's responsibility to be aware of upcoming events and to plan accordingly. Outside commitments should not conflict with any Falconette duties. By committing to the program, each member has made being a Falconette a primary responsibility. Other outside commitments such as part-time jobs, club meetings, and other extracurricular activities must not interfere with participation in an event, game and/or practice.

Parent Commitment:

Parents, as the adults, you and our staff are expected to model the appropriate behavior we would expect our students to exhibit daily. Please encourage your student in this effort. Should you become aware of any conflicts between your student or yourself and another, please bring that to the attention of the Band Director(s) and/or Staff immediately. Parental attempts to resolve an issue themselves could easily be misconstrued and actually escalate the conflict. However, if it is determined by the Band Director that a parent has willfully instigated, and/or perpetuated conflict among their student and any other band member(s), that parent's student could face permanent removal from the Pebblebrook High School Band Program. Parent, your signature below shows your understanding of your important role in your student's success, and your commitment to helping your student have the most positive experience possible in the Pebblebrook Band.

Parent Expectations:

Parents should not address students on the team one on one. All issues should be brought forth to the coaches, sponsor, or band directors. Parents should not interfere with Falconettes while in performance or at rehearsal. This includes, but is not limited to, providing personal water bottles/food, wiping sweat, adjusting uniforms, fixing hair, or anything else that will cause a disruption to the team.

THE IMPORTANCE OF PROCEDURE:

Policies and procedures are put forth in this handbook to ensure that all aspects of the Falconettes run smoothly, and that each participant has a fair, safe, positive, and successful experience. At times, unforeseen circumstances may dictate modification of a policy. In this case, modifications will be made on a case-by-case basis at the discretion and judgment of the coach, sponsor or band directors!

Attendance:

Band is an activity that thrives on the consistent attendance of its members. All band camps, rehearsals, and performances are **mandatory** and should not be missed unless a catastrophic event, emergency, or illness has occurred. If an emergency occurs, notify the band staff immediately by phone call, text, or email. Falconettes should be on time for any scheduled event with all required items and equipment. **Please keep in mind that “To be on time is to be late and to be early is to be on time”.** This implies Falconettes should be present and ready to perform 15 minutes prior to any call time. Falconettes that are late to an after school band rehearsal should have a signed pass from the teacher hosting tutoring. Students that participate in other activities that conflict with band after school rehearsals are to **communicate with a band staff member before being late or missing a rehearsal.** Falconettes that are excessively tardy or absent from band rehearsals may be sat down from weekly performances or removed from the auxiliary team. Lastly, any participant who quits the Falconettes team will be disqualified from trying out the following year.

Absence:

If a member is sick before/during/after school, she must check in and contact her coaches, sponsor, and band directors. Members must inform coaches in order to be cleared from an absence/tardy. It is solely the member’s responsibility to learn choreography from a missed rehearsal and arrange for someone to record new choreography to learn in case of an absence.

****EXCUSED ABSENCES**

- Illness (more than 1 days provide Dr. note)
- Injury that prevents attendance (notify coaches immediately)
- Doctor/dentist appointment (with note provided)
- Funeral
- Religious holiday (with 2 week given notice)
- Unexpected emergency (contact coaches, sponsor or band directors); absence pre-arranged and approved

****UNEXCUSED ABSENCES**

- Doctor/dentist appt. without a note;
- Work/job; uniform/dress code violation;
- Tardies
- Menstrual Cycles
- Other extra-curricular activities / projects

Infractions Consequences:

It is our expectation that students comply with the guidelines stated in this document. Failure to comply will result in consequences given by the student leadership team, band staff, and Band Directors. These consequences may range from additional calisthenics, probation (limited performance), suspension, to being expelled from the band program. Please see the guidelines below for more specific consequences:

1st infraction - verbal warning from section leader/team captain or drum major and additional calisthenics (i.e., pushups, squats, laps)

2nd infraction - conference with band director(s) and performance consequences

Final infraction - dismissed from performance ensemble , auxiliary team and/or band program indefinitely.

Example of Offenses:

- Disrespect to Student Leadership/Coaches
- Talking during rehearsal
- Chewing gum, eating, or drinking during rehearsal
- Using a cellphone during rehearsal
- Perform choreography not approved by coaches
- Inappropriate behavior during rehearsal
- Using profanity at any time
- Excessive Tardiness/Unexcused Absences
- No Call No Show Absences

The following offenses may result in immediate dismissal from the band program indefinitely:

- Theft of band student belongings or property of the band
- Use of profanity towards a staff member or parent volunteer
- Use of sexual language and/or inappropriate gestures/sexual harassment
- Sexual acts of any nature
- Fighting/Assault
- Profanity, inappropriate pictures, harassment or any derogatory social media posts about members of the band or the band program
- Possession, use, transmittal, storage, or be under the influence of alcoholic beverages and/or illegal drugs , narcotics, hallucinogens, amphetamines, barbiturates, marijuana, or any other substance listed under the Georgia Controlled Substance Act.

****Student leaders will complete written documentation for each infraction to be signed off by the band directors/coaches****

Communication/Concerns:

All communications will follow proper protocol under PHS Band Chain of Command:

- a. Coaches: Jazmine McElrath and Destini Walton
- b. Auxiliary Sponsor: Ralencia Shaw Howard
- c. Band Director: Eulas Kirtdoll, Assistant Band Director: Endre' Jenkins

Please contact the Falconettes Auxiliary Sponsor, ralencia.shawhoward@cobbk12.org for further questions.

PEBBLEBROOK MARCHING BAND

NEW MEMBER FALCONETTE FOR 2023-24 YEAR

The following are fees for participation in the *Falconettes* at Pebblebrook High School. Payments will be made using the JotForm Link that will be sent

General Band Dues	\$175
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Instructional Staff● Away Game Meals● Hydration Materials● Choreography Design	
Informal Uniforms	\$50
Band Shirt	\$15
Tights (2)	\$30
-Head band	\$15
-Jogging Suit	\$90
-Duffle Bag	\$60
Formal Uniform Rental/Cleaning Fee	\$75
Shoes	\$80
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Jazz shoe- Dance sneaker	
TOTALS	\$590

PEBBLEBROOK MARCHING BAND01

RETURNING FALCONETTE FEES FOR 2023-24 YEAR

The following are fees for participation in the *Falconettes* at Pebblebrook High School. Payments will be made using the JotForm Link that will be sent

General Band Dues	\$175
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Instructional Staff● Away Game Meals● Hydration Materials● Choreography Design	
Informal Uniforms	\$50
- Band Shirt	\$15
- Tights (2)	\$30
- Head band	\$15
Formal Uniform Rental/Cleaning Fee	\$75
Shoes	\$80
- Jazz Shoe	
- Dance sneaker	
TOTALS	\$440

Payment Schedule

Payment Links will be emailed out to the email addresses we have on file.

New Member

\$190 Deposit Due: June 15th
\$200 2nd Payment: July 15th
\$200 Final Payment: August 15th

Returning Member

\$125 Deposit Due: June 15th
\$175 2nd Payment: July 15th
\$140 Final Payment: August 15th

Handbook Acknowledgement

Signing *The Falconette Handbook Parent/Student Acknowledgement* form confirms agreement to the expectations outlined on the previous pages.

The Falconette must follow the rules and expectations throughout the entire season. Failure to follow this contract may result in dismissal from the band program.

Student Signature X_____

Student Name (print) X_____

Parent Signature X_____

Parent Name (print) X_____

Coach's Signature X_____

Date ~ _____

BAND BOOSTER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I understand as a PHS Band Parent, I should participate with the Band Boosters as much as possible.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____