



Flat Rock High School  
25600 Seneca Street  
Flat Rock, Michigan 48134  
734-535-6650 www.frband.org



# HIGH SCHOOL BAND GUIDEBOOK

**Policies, Procedures, and Information for Bandos and Families**

## PREFACE

The Flat Rock Band is one of the largest and most active and most visible student organization at Flat Rock High School. Being a member of the Flat Rock High School Band will bring students an interesting and fulfilling educational experience. They will work hard and experience many triumphs, as well as downfalls; two things that will prepare them for the real world after high school.

The primary role, however, of the band program is music education through performance. Music is a unique combination of science, mathematics, language, history, and art. Instrumental Music adds the element of physical education. It can inspire both intellectual and emotional stimulation. The curriculum will seek to instill an awareness of music's important role in the enrichment of the human spirit.

This organization has high-performance standards and a high behavioral standard. All students in the Flat Rock Band are expected to "set and be the example" in or out of school, in person or on social media. Skills acquitted by participation in the Flat Rock Band are but not limited to the following:

- Life Skills and Time Management
  - The commitment being in band forces requires students to learn how to balance academics, sports, and other activities.
  - Being part of the band develops essential life skills such as time management, discipline, and teamwork.
- Leadership
  - There are numerous levels of student leadership positions within the band. Everyone develops leadership qualities whether or not they have a title.
- Interpersonal
  - The group dynamic of a high school band is very complex. The Flat Rock Band is proud of its diversity and the ability of its members to work together for a common goal. Band is not just about playing music; it's also about building lasting friendships and being part of a supportive community.
- Responsibility
  - As a member of the Flat Rock Band, you must be on time, account for your actions and be responsible for thousands of dollars' worth of equipment. The group's success relies and depends on your sense of responsibility.

In addition, we will provide you with opportunities for fun, musical knowledge, and fellowship. You will gain a sense of pride, belonging, self-respect, and a feeling of achievement. As an outcome, you will be prepared with mental, physical, social, and emotional stability which will carry over to the real world.

## PURPOSE

This guidebook is to provide the members of the Flat Rock Band (Bandos) and their families a clear and concise understanding of our band program.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS OF PARENTS

- *How will my child have time for all of this and still be able to make good grades?*
- *How will my child have the time to go to after school rehearsals, perform at four or five Friday night football games, go to competitions in the fall, and have concerts throughout the school year?*

These two questions can be answered with two words: Time management will be the most important life tool that your child will acquire when they become members of the Flat Rock Band. The students quickly learn that they must use every minute of their day wisely. This is taught to them when they first join the program, and it is expected of them. Remember that most band members are Honor Roll and National Honor Society students. They also will learn how to keep a schedule, how to be punctual, and how to set priorities.

A detailed calendar is always available to all band families on our website in the BoosterHub App. It lists every rehearsal, football game, competition, and concert your student will be required to attend. Your child will also become punctual and know the meaning of the phrase... **“Early is on time, on time is late!”**

- *Does my student really have to be at all rehearsals and performances?* Scheduled out of school rehearsals and performances are mandatory. Band is a “Team” activity. However, unlike athletics, we do not have a bench. We play everyone, all the time. One absent member will be disruptive for all members of the band. To be able to put forth the best possible musical all members of the band to be present all the time. Membership depends on consistent participation. Management of a band is a monumental task, and it becomes next to impossible if members of the band are absent. The nature of marching band is such that individual absences from a rehearsal can put the entire group behind in terms of learning new things and making progress towards a new goal for the week. This is why it is so important that participants do not miss rehearsals or competitions except for emergencies.
- *How do I sign up and register my child for High School Band?* All Bandos must be registered via our on-line process at <https://forms.gle/1DoTUKTjVpf6UJnw7> by the published due date. This information, which includes health and medical documentation, is critical for us to have on hand as the Band takes many away from school trips throughout the school year.



Since we will still require to have your signature on file, this will be a two-step process.

1. Complete and submit the on-line registration form.
    - a. Registration must be completed by a parent (not the Bando).
  2. To finish the registration, stop by the registration table in the Lobby at the May Concert.
    - a. There you will sign the Medical Release/Permission Form and the Band Camp Contract.
  3. Information will be taken from the on-line registration form and pre-filled for you.
    - a. This form must be notarized; however, for your convenience, we will have a Notary Public on hand to notarize your signature free of charge.
- *How Do Parents Get Involved?* Getting involved in the band program will give you the opportunity to share with your child the last four years of their public-school education, these years that go so fast and are rarely enjoyed by many parents. Your child might say they rather not have you around, but most parents learn that they appreciate your involvement and will thank you in the future.

Flat Rock has always been fortunate to have a very supportive group of parents. The band needs parents to be able to function; it is for this reason that we urge you to get involved. Grandparents, siblings, or any member of your

family can get involved and make a difference. Join the Band Association (in fact you already have), it is a great way to meet the parents and the kids with which your child will be spending much of their time.

The easiest way to volunteer is by attending the Band Association meetings where you will learn more about the program and where it needs your help. Band Association meetings are held in August, September, October, January, April, and May at 7:00pm in the High School Band Room and usually last for an hour.

If you plan to volunteer for the Band in any capacity, you must be on the approved Volunteer List with Flat Rock Community Schools. To apply, please go to the school website and look under the “Parent” tab.

[https://www.flatrockschools.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC\\_ID=1514532&type=d&pREC\\_ID=1653120](https://www.flatrockschools.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=1514532&type=d&pREC_ID=1653120)

### **Examples of volunteer areas:**

**MSBOA Marching Band Festival** - Help is needed to coordinate this contest, which is hosted by the Flat Rock Band. In addition, *many* volunteers are needed to help with tickets, sales, parking, guiding visiting bands, and concessions. This event usually occurs on the first or second Monday of October.

**Flat Rock Speedway – This is our MAIN SOURCE OF INCOME.** Adults are needed to sell 50/50 raffle tickets at the Flat Rock Speedway on Saturday evenings (May-September). *This qualifies for a Band Camp Discount.*

**Bus Chaperones** - Adults are needed to ride the buses on away trips.

**Pit Crew** – Help out with the Pit and Beast.

**Fundraisers** – Volunteers are needed to help with the administration of our various fundraisers.

- ***How Do We Keep Informed?*** The band website is a place that you will want to visit often not only to keep informed, but also to view the most recent pictures of the band’s activities. It is here that you will find the latest information on all upcoming events and fundraising opportunities. Make sure to visit our web site at [www.frband.org](http://www.frband.org).
- ***How Do We Pay for This?*** There are many questions about the economic impact of the Band Program. When we hear the bottom line, we sometimes wonder how we are going to be able to raise the funds needed for our children to be able to continue the pursuit of their musical interest. We do not want the economic factor to keep any student from participating in band.

It is our philosophy of the that no student should be denied the privileges and opportunities of band membership due to financial hardship. Arrangements can be made for students who need such considerations with simple communication. These arrangements can be anything from scholarships to a delayed payment schedule. Any financial benefits granted to a student will be kept confidential. If you need such assistance, you must make contact before contracts are signed. Please don’t hesitate to reach out and explore options.

Fundraising is one of the many activities the band participates in to pay for its expenses. Your child will be asked to participate in several fundraisers throughout the year. Although fundraising is not mandatory, it is strongly encouraged because it helps YOU in paying for expenditures. Students will not be excused from any fees or necessary expenditures since so many fundraising opportunities are given to them - all they must do is participate. If they do not participate, students/parents must pay their fees completely at their own expense. In cases of extreme financial distress, payment plans, or scholarships can be worked out with the Band Association. However, if no effort is made to earn money via our fundraisers, the likelihood of being approved for financial assistance will be slim.

Each student beginning in 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be given a "Band Account." The starting balance in this account is \$0. 100% of the profits from the funds that each student raises will go into their band account to use for band-related expenses. Please note: The student can ONLY use this money for band events or band needs, i.e., Spring Tour (payment for the trip itself), band supplies (shoes, shirts, gloves, cleaning fee, etc.) excluding instrument needs such as reeds, valve oil and the like. This money cannot be used for personal needs, and it is illegal to do so. When money is raised, it is raised in the name of Flat Rock Band program, not in the name of that individual.

When a student graduates, their remaining balance cannot be taken out. Instead, that money can be passed down to a younger sibling currently in the band, or placed in the general Band Association account to be used by the band director and Association at their discretion. If a student leaves the band program, voluntarily or involuntarily, before graduation, the money in his or her account immediately goes to the general fund.

- **Can I post videos or audio recordings of Flat Rock Band performances on social media?** No. All of the music we perform is copyright protected. When we purchase the music, we are granted live performance rights. However, we do not have broadcast or distribution privileges. A substantial fine and repercussions can follow for violating this law.

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS OF STUDENTS**

- **What is G.R.A.C.E?** It is our motto and creed. It is an acronym for:  
Gratitude    Respect    Attitude    Commitment    Excellence
- **Can being in Band help me get into college?** College admissions officers frequently cite participation in music programs as an important factor in making admissions decisions. A direct quote from an admission officer at a major nearby university: *“The first two elements we look at when selecting students for admission are overall grade point average and participation in extra-curricular activities, especially band and athletics. If the student does band and/or sports and still maintains a high G.P.A., this demonstrates self-motivation and great time-management. A.P. classes are not considered when selecting applicants much anymore.”*
- **I hear that it can be hard to fit all the required classes into a student schedule while taking band all four years?** It is absolutely possible to take band all four years and take all the necessary classes. In fact, most, if not all, band students take band all four years and are consistently ranked high in their class. Traditionally, there are five or six Bandos in the top ten of the senior class.
- **Can I be in Band and Athletics?** Of course! In fact, many of the students in the Flat Rock Band are in at least one sport and Mr. Engelbert believes that it is important to participate in more than just one activity during your high school career. The only request is that you make sacrifices to both activities when a conflict arises. A performance is more important than a practice. A game is more important than a rehearsal. When practices and rehearsals occur and at the same time, miss half of each. Please use the guide in the attendance policy.
- **Do I really need to go to Band Camp to be in Marching Band?** Since there is a cost involved, Band Camp is not mandatory. However, the ENTIRE show is learned during the seven days we are at camp. If you are not there, you will be completely lost and very, very far behind when school starts. Students who are not able to attend band camp for any reason may not have a position in the marching show drill.
- **Are there really inspections before performances?** Yes. The Section Leaders will inspect your appearance and uniform. If you don't pass inspection (see Uniform Rules), you may not get to perform until the issue is corrected

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## Expectations

Demonstrate G.R.A.C.E. at all times

- 1. Gratitude**
  - a. Be grateful of what we have and who we are.
  - b. Never take anything or anyone for granted
  - c. Give thanks always
- 2. Respect**
  - a. Be on time for everything
  - b. Stop playing immediately on a musical “cut off.”
  - c. Stop talking when being addressed
  - d. Screen Free rehearsals
    1. Store phones away unless asked to use them for musical purposes.
  - e. Take your earbuds out in the band room and when being spoken to.
  - f. Don't wear a hat in the band room.
- 3. Attitude**
  - a. Show passion and confidence
  - b. Show pride in how you carry yourself in school and community.
- 4. Character**
  - a. Kindness & Compassion: Showing care, generosity, and understanding for others' suffering, making people feel valued.
  - b. Honesty & Integrity: Being truthful, sincere, and having strong moral principles, which builds trust.
  - c. Responsibility & Accountability: Being dependable, diligent, and owning your actions and commitments.
  - d. Empathy & Consideration: Understanding and sharing the feelings of others, leading to better communication and connection.
  - e. Perseverance & Resilience: The ability to keep going despite difficulties, demonstrating determination and adaptability.
- 5. Excellence**
  - a. All of the above plus:
  - b. Be prepared for rehearsal and performances
  - c. 100% participation always

## Band Schedule

There is not a published calendar. The interactive band schedule is on our Band Website at [www.frband.org](http://www.frband.org) which contains the most current information as well as maps to events. This also can be synced to your phone by using this link: <https://flatrockband.boosterhub.com/ical-stream>

## Payments

Payments are accepted either by check (payable to: "Flat Rock Band"), money order, or PayPal. We strongly recommend not to make payments in cash. There are three ways to submit payments.

1. Drop payments in the locked box in the director's office - Do not hand payments to the director.
2. Funds may be mailed to the following address: Flat Rock Band P.O. Box 291, Flat Rock, MI 48134.
3. PayPal using the following link: <https://www.paypal.me/flatrockband>

## Attendance Policy

As with any organization, attendance and participation are crucial to the overall success of the group. The opportunity to perform for a public audience is an integral part of the curriculum that cannot be taught, provided, or experienced during the school day. If you are not present to perform, the educational condition presented in a performance cannot be effectively recreated at a future time. Having a student play the concert or marching music afterwards may measure a student's ability to play correct notes and rhythms but is otherwise useless.

All rehearsals and events are mandatory, and students will be held accountable for tardiness, absence, and lack of participation. The success of the band program depends on the dedication and attendance of all members of the group. **PERFORMANCES ARE ASSESSMENTS!** This is the means with which we measure/evaluate the group

You have made a **commitment** to be in the band. Everyone is counting on you. To have successful band rehearsals and performances, it is essential that we have full attendance. **The absence of one person not only affects that person, but also the entire group.** The critical factors of uniformity, balance, precision, spacing and alignment cannot be improved or maintained with absences.

Because our calendar is available by the end of the previous school year, it is expected that students check their schedule against the band schedule. All events are scheduled and viewed on the Band Website [www.frband.org](http://www.frband.org)

Students are responsible for ensuring that all other personal matters, including work and appointments, are scheduled, and taken care of on days when they do not have a band commitment. If you believe a conflict is unavoidable, notify Mr. Engelbert as soon as possible, seven days minimum. Often, arrangements can be made for students to be at rehearsals. If you work, make sure your employer knows your Band schedule in advance.

We take missing scheduled rehearsals and performances very seriously. We believe that every student is important to our overall success. **There are only two reasons for missing a performance or rehearsal without advanced notice: Personal illness or unavoidable family emergency.** If you suddenly miss a rehearsal or performance due to an emergency or illness, a parent must attempt to contact the director within 24 hours of the missed event. This is still required if the student has been excused from school during the day. When conflicts arise, use the following rubric to determine what is fair for the student and the band.

Hopefully, you will find the following scenarios helpful in making decisions concerning scheduling.

- Student in school during the day = student expected at scheduled after school rehearsal / concert.
- Student absent from school = band director notification appreciated, but not required
- School events most always come before non-school events. In many cases grades are given for school events. Some of the most important lessons we teach happen after hours at extra practice or/and concerts.
- Special, one time, family events or travel = almost always excused. Prior notice well in advance is expected.
- Athletic Conflicts
  - Band rehearsal vs. athletic game/meet = student always goes to game
  - Band performance vs. athletic practice = student always goes to the performance
  - Band performance vs. athletic game/meet = If it is possible for the student to compromise (leave early, come late, etc.). We will make every effort possible. If there is a direct unavoidable conflict, the performance takes priority since it is for a grade and a part of the curriculum. However, if the student is vying for a chance at a next level event (State Competition), exceptions may be made.
  - Band rehearsal vs. athletic practice = student usually goes to practice since we have our in-school rehearsal and athletics does not.

**If the student is absent from a performance, for any reason, an email from a parent must be made within 24 hours indicating the reason for the absence.** Send emails to; [jengelbert@flatrockschools.org](mailto:jengelbert@flatrockschools.org)

#### Examples of Excused Absences:

- Extreme illness
- Death in the immediate family
- Family wedding
- Injury (**you are expected to attend rehearsals even with an injury** – you can still learn by watching, supporting the group, and playing on the sideline.)
- Bring a doctor's note and/or note from a parent the next day explaining the reason for your absence.

#### Examples of Unexcused Absences:

- Work/babysitting
- Homework (it's priority #1, so you need to figure out time management)
- **Forgot/couldn't get a ride (always communicate w/ section to get a ride if needed)**
- Sniffles, tired, cranky, broke up with boyfriend/girlfriend, shoes on the wrong feet, I had other plans, 'but Cedar Point!', 'but we have Tigers tickets!'...you get the point

### Performance Policy

This policy is directly related to our attendance policy. We realize that everyone is very busy and involved in many different activities. We want our students to be well rounded by taking part in lots of activities, but we expect a measure of dedication to the band. In turn we will limit on what we expect so you may successfully balance family, academic, work, and personal time.

- The Concert Band will perform a maximum of four indoor concerts. Usually occurring in November, December, March, and May.
- The Marching Band will perform a maximum of five regular season football games. Performances at post-season (playoff and championship) games will be determined by feasibility and availability.
- The Marching Band will perform at a maximum of two Flat Rock parades. Those parades will be the Homecoming Parade and the Flat Rock Memorial Day Parade. Out of town parades will be considered with at least a nine month notice and only if that town's Band is also performing. We may do a parade during our biennial tour.

This policy is aligned with the educational goals of the Band program. All out-of-school performances will be listed on our master band calendar well in advance. Many performances are announced a year in advance.

### Reporting and Ending Times

All events have a beginning (reporting) time and ending time. **Please respect the personal time of the director and staff by picking up your student at the published time and we will respect you and your family by ending at the published time.** If the rehearsal is scheduled to end at 8:30...It will end at 8:30! Please allow a few minutes after the end time for students to put away instrument/equipment properly.

If we are on an away trip, factors beyond our control will determine or arrival time back to the High School. Although the I&I sheet (see page 9) will have our predicted arrival time, your Bando will be allowed to let you know our ETA from the buses while we are en route home.

### Parking

Parents: When dropping off or picking up your Bando from an event, park in the Bobcean Lot or Main HS Lot. **Do not park or drop off on Seneca St. or in the service drive.** All Bandos must park in the main school lot or the Bobcean lot when at the school for a band function. Never park behind the building.

## **SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS**

The Flat Rock Band and Flat Rock Community Schools own many instruments that are available for use by Bandos. There is no charge for a Bando using a School Owned Instrument. The Bando and their parent/guardian will be asked to sign and return a School Instrument Use Agreement stating that the instrument will be kept safe and they understand their responsibilities for the use of the instrument.

- The Bando will use the instrument as if it were their own and be able to take it home whenever necessary.
- The Bando and Parent/Guardian will accept full responsibility for repair or replacement for any instrument used.
- Repairs due to normal wear and tear, as determined by the Marshall Music Service Department, will be covered by the Flat Rock Band.
- Repairs needed by any other type of action, including accidental damage, will be the sole responsibility of the Bando and Parent/Guardian.
- The Bando and Parent/Guardian will be responsible for replacing school instruments that are lost, misplaced, or stolen. The brand/model of the replacement instrument will be determined by the Band Director.
- The Bando will return any instrument assigned to him/her immediately upon request of the Band Director.

# UNIFORMS

The Flat Rock Band Association has purchased, at a monumental cost, a marching band uniform and a tuxedo for each member of the High School Band. At the beginning of the school year, each student will be assigned a marching uniform and tuxedo to use for band performances. There will be a \$35.00 fee assessed to each student for the maintenance and upkeep of both the tuxedo and marching band uniform. This fee covers normal “wear and tear” repairs and dry cleaning.

The following is a description of the items which make up the Flat Rock Band uniforms. They are divided into two categories. Items owned by the Flat Rock Band and items purchased by the Bando. The Bando will be charged for any Band owned item that is damaged or lost.

## Band Provided Items

- Marching Jacket
- Marching Bibs
- Marching Hat
- Hat Box
- Plume
- Parka
- Tuxedo Coat

- Tuxedo Pants
- Bow Tie
- Green Garment Bag (Marching Uniform)
- Yellow Garment Bag (Tuxedo)

## Bando Purchased/owned Items.

*(All items are mandatory and purchased via our BoosterHub online store.)*

- White Marching Shoes
- Black Patent Leather Tuxedo Shoes
- White Gloves

- Band T-Shirt
- White Tuxedo Shirt
- Band Bucket Hat
- White (calf length) Socks
- Black (calf length) Socks

## Uniform Care

Each Bando is 100% responsible for the care and proper handling of the uniform items assigned to them. After each performance, the bibs/pants must be properly folded and hung across the bar of the hanger. The Jacket (Marching and Tuxedo) must be placed over the hanger and zipped in place. The uniform must be placed in the garment bag and the bag partially zipped to allow ventilation to help the uniform dry and air out. Parkas must be neatly hung with top snap closed.

- All Band owned parts of the uniform will remain at the school when not being used.
- The marching uniform and tuxedo are DRY CLEAN ONLY. The Flat Rock Band Association will handle this process for you. The cost of this is covered by your Uniform Cleaning Fee.

If any part of the uniform is lost or damaged, the student and/or parent will be responsible for the cost of the lost or damaged item using the following schedule of fees:

- |                            |                        |                                     |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • Marching Jacket \$300.00 | • Plume \$18.00        | • Bow Tie \$10.00                   |
| • Marching Bibs \$180.00   | • Parka \$125.00       | • Garment Bags \$25.00              |
| • Marching Hat \$75.00     | • Tuxedo Coat \$150.00 |                                     |
| • Hat Box \$15.00          | • Tuxedo Pants \$90.00 | <b><i>TOTAL COST: \$1013.00</i></b> |

## Uniform Rules

While wearing the uniform of the Flat Rock Band, you are expected and required to abide by the following rules:

- There is absolutely no eating or drinking (except plain, clear water) in uniform.
  - This may be waived, verbally, under the following conditions.
  - You are wearing your Parka and all snaps are fastened.
  - You must eat and drink standing up.
- Do not bring any food or drink (except water) on to the track.
- Do not sit or lean on anything not approved.
  - We must be sure that there is nothing that present that can damage or soil the uniform.
- Do not go into the Student Section during Football games while wearing the uniform including Parka.
- No displays of affection while in uniform. This includes holding hands unless in “circle.”
- Do not get a “new” piercing close to or during marching season.
- Nothing is to be visibly worn while in uniform that is not part of the uniform. This mainly pertains to non-uniform hats and shoes.

- No sunglasses while in uniform.
- In the case of inclement weather, we may switch to our “rain protocol uniform.”
  - Marching Shoes
  - Long Pants
  - Green Band Shirt
  - Marching Hat or Bucket Hat
  - Parka

Inspection (for Marching Band)

- Must be wearing Band T-Shirt
- Must have Bucket Hat.
- Gloves must be clean.
- Shoes must be clean.
- No visible jewelry or piercings.
- Hair must not extend below collar of the coat. (Tie it up if too long, males and females)
- Hair must be a natural human color.
- No cell phone or smart watch.

**Handy Hints for your personal uniform items:**

- Have extra gloves, socks, and band shirts.
- This is for when there are performances close together and there is no time for laundering.
- Keep all your socks, shoes, band shirt, gloves, etc. in a small duffle bag and store in a consistent location.
  - This will make it much easier to find everything when necessary.
- You should never not be able to find something you need.

**BAND AWARDS**

John Philip Sousa Award

The most prestigious award given in the Flat Rock Band. It is presented at the final concert of the year to the senior Bando who has displayed the finest example of G.R.A.C.E., leadership, and service to the Band. To be eligible for this award, the senior instrumentalist must have been in Band during each year of high school.

Senior Gift

Presented to Seniors at the final concert in appreciation for their service to the Flat Rock Bands.

Band Letter

A Band Letter is given to all Bandos after they complete their first full year. A bar pin, which can be added to the letter, is given for each additional season.

**SPRING TOUR**

The Flat Rock Band usually tours every other year. The Band Tour is considered an extra “luxury” perk of being in the Band and although we want everyone to participate, we do not offer financial assistance or scholarships.

**BANDO ACCOUNTS**

Bandos can earn credit through band fundraisers, which is held in an account with the Band Association. These funds may be used only for band camp, band supply orders, and the spring tour. They cannot be withdrawn or refunded for any other purpose (see page 4).

If a Bando has an outstanding balance, any payments made toward extracurricular trips or related expenses will be applied to the oldest balance first. Students and parents may not participate in extracurricular trips until the account is in good standing.

# COMMUNICATION

The Flat Rock Band provides many ways to communicate information about programs, events, activities, fundraisers, schedules, and many other items that are important for you to know. *Please take advantage of all these methods to stay informed! There is absolutely no reason a Bando or Parent should be surprised by anything pertaining to the Flat Rock Band.*

**Mr. Engelbert's email:** [jengelbert@flatrockschools.org](mailto:jengelbert@flatrockschools.org)

*Please be advised that Mr. Engelbert rarely checks email outside of school hours.  
A reply to your message may not come until the next school day.*

## BoosterHub

Our management app is free to use for Bandos and Parents. All Band communication is made via BoosterHub. Announcements, student accounting, fundraisings, volunteer sign-ups, Band merchandise and supplies are all done through our BoosterHub app. All Bandos and at least one Parent/Guardian must be enrolled in BoosterHub and have the app installed. Contact Mr. Engelbert for an invitation to join.



## Website

[www.frband.org](http://www.frband.org)

## E-Mail

Sent to Bandos and parents giving updates and reminders. Be sure to check your email frequently.

## I and I Sheet

This sheet is distributed (by email) to all Bandos and Parents before each performance to provide absolutely everything you need to know about the next performance. It may be posted on the website as well.



## Social Media

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Flat-Rock-Band/154796757878355>



FLATROCKBAND

## Snail Mail

Flat Rock Band  
P.O. Box 291  
Flat Rock, MI 48134

## Telephone

Band Office – 734-535-6650  
Fax – 734-535-6601  
Mr. Engelbert's Cell Phone – 734-626-5292

# FLAT ROCK SPEEDWAY

The Flat Rock Band has a long-standing reciprocal agreement with the Flat Rock Speedway. We sell 50/50 Raffle Tickets at all races. In return for keeping 100% of the profit from the ticket sales, we clean-up the Speedway after each race.

The Band then offers a share of those profits to directly benefit High School Bandos. Currently, the following formula is used to provide a substantial discount on Band Camp fees:

- If a Bando works a minimum of seven (7) clean-ups, the band camp fee will be reduced by \$100.00
- Any parent or representative (18 or older) who helps sell 50/50 tickets at two races (or two volunteer spots per student) will have an additional \$75.00 taken off their child's Band Camp fee.
- For both the ticket sales and clean-up, you must select your dates on "BoosterHub" beforehand.  
**STUDENTS AND PARENTS MUST BE SIGNED UP IN ADVANCE TO BE CREDITED.**
- Any Bando who works more than seven clean ups will receive \$5.00 per clean up thereafter.
- Any adult who fills in to sell 50/50 tickets in a "last minute" situation will receive \$10.00 in their Bando's account once and if the minimum of two races has been met.

- You have until the last race weekend to complete this option. Simply make sure you have completed or are scheduled for required number of clean ups/sales.
- If by the end of the season, you do not complete this option, you will be charged the full camp fee with no discount. You will be billed for the remainder of the balance.
- **If you or your parent/representative accumulate a total of two (2) “no shows” at a race and/or a clean-up, you will forfeit the Speedway option discount.**

## **BAND CAMP**

This is the first time the whole band works intensively on the field show. It is the key element in establishing the positive attitude and team spirit that is the hallmark of the Flat Rock Band. Since there is a cost involved, Band Camp is not mandatory. However, the **ENTIRE** show is learned during the seven days we are at camp. If you are not there, you will be completely lost and very, very far behind when school starts. Students who are not able to attend band camp for any reason may not have a position in the marching show drill. Instead they will still be a part of the Band but play in the front ensemble during Marching Band Season. After Marching Band is over, they will switch back to their primary instrument in Concert Band.

### Contract

All Bandos and a Parent/Guardian will be required to sign a Band Camp Contract. This will be part of the registration process as described on page 2 of this Guidebook.

### Transportation

All students will travel to and from camp together on our chartered motorcoaches. This is included in the camp fee. Parents or Guardians (only) may pick up your Bando from Mackinaw City rather than having them ride the motor coaches back to Flat Rock. To do so, please follow these three steps:

1. Email, Text, or give written note to, Mr. Engelbert **ON OR BEFORE FRIDAY at 7:00pm** indicating that you will be taking your Bando at Mackinaw City and they will not be riding the Motor Coaches home.
2. Meet at the departure point (usually on main street on the west side of town) at the designated time.
3. Check out with Mr. Engelbert so it is clear that you have your Bando and he or she is safe with you.

**Bandos will only be released to a Parent or Guardian.**

### Family Day

Parents and families are encouraged to visit Camp Walden on Friday of camp week. This is the only day we allow visitors. Visitors must be parents and/or families of current Bandos. No other non-family guests are allowed unless accompanied by a parent of a current Bando. Bando Alumni are welcome if prior arrangements with Mr. Engelbert have been made and approved.

You may be on site anytime throughout the day after 9:00am and follow our itinerary. We cannot guarantee that you will be able to dine with us for lunch and/or dinner. Please do not plan on that.

That evening, the band will premiere the field show at 7:00pm. After that, we have our annual cabin skit night and bonfire.

Accommodations may be secured at nearby motels or at local campgrounds.

### Driving directions to Camp Walden:

- **I-75 North to exit 313**, turn right.
- Go 12.8 miles to **Hwy. 33**, turn right.
- Go 3.1 miles to **Orchard Beach Rd.**, turn left.
- Go 1.9 miles to fork in road, turn right.
- Go 2.1 miles to Camp Walden, turn right.

### Camp Physical Address

Camp Walden  
5607 S. River Rd.  
Cheboygan, MI 49721

### Emergency

In case of an emergency at home while we are at camp, the phone number for Camp Walden is (231) 625-2050. The office is closed during Band Camp week, but voice messages are checked often.

### Luggage

You must be very practical about everything that you bring to camp. Only one piece of luggage and one “carry-on” is allowed. (Your instrument and sleeping bag are not luggage) Put your name visibly on everything. You may not bring a cooler or a case of water!

### Clothing

Be sure to be sensible about what you bring. The weather in Cheboygan can be 90+ degrees during the day and 40-degrees in the evening and morning. Please be prepared for both warm and cool weather. It is advised to bring two pairs of socks for each day, you will sweat. We will spend most of the day outside.

### Shoes and Socks

You must wear proper shoes (tennis) and dry clean socks. It is recommended that you bring a dozen pairs of socks and two pairs of tennis shoes. **“Flip-Flops,” “Slides,” or Sandals/Crocs** are not allowed outside of your cabin.

### Instrument

You are responsible for your instrument at all times. You need to have a record of the make, model, and serial number of your instrument at home. Other equipment needed: reeds, valve oil, LYRE, FLIP-FOLDER, cork grease, all your music, drumsticks/mallets, etc... If you use a school owned instrument, you are responsible for it as if it were your own. Know the make, model, and serial number.

### Cabins

Your cabin will be your headquarters. These cabins will be our homes for a week; you will treat them as such. Cabins will be expected to be perfect and inspected every day. Cabin assignments will be made by Mr. Engelbert. Each cabin will have an adult chaperone. You are not allowed in anyone else’s cabin at any time.

### Meals

The camp will provide meals in the dining hall from Monday breakfast through Saturday breakfast. We will make a meal stop to and from camp. No student will be allowed to miss any meal while at camp. All meals will be served “family style” and each cabin will be assigned clean-up times. Basic eating etiquette will be followed. Headwear is not to be worn during indoor meals.

### Illness or injury

You must immediately report any illness or injury (no matter how minor) to Mr. Engelbert.

### Prescription Medication

Prescription medications that the student will need at camp must be in a current bottle with name, dosage and frequency listed then placed in a labeled zip lock bag and turned in before departure. Pack medications separately, as medications must be given to Mrs. Engelbert by a parent at check-in and will be dispensed as instructed.

### Spending Money

There is no need to spend money at the camp but there is a camp store “Wald-Mart” that sells Camp Walden apparel. You will, however, need to bring money for meals to camp and at Mackinaw City. We have discovered that most establishments are “card only” and do not accept cash. **It is highly recommended that you have a debit card or pre-paid cash card with you.**

### Camp Specific Rules

THE FOLLOWING BEHAVIORS WILL RESULT IN DISCIPLINARY ACTION. INFRACTIONS COULD LEAD TO THE STUDENT BEING SENT HOME AT THE PARENTS' EXPENSE AND/OR SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED FROM FLAT ROCK COMMUNITY SCHOOLS. These rules should be thoroughly understood by both students and parents. All parents should read this list carefully and go over it with your children. Most of these rules will apply for all band activities throughout the school year. **FRCS Code of Conduct will be in effect.**

- ❖ Smoking, Vaping, or use/possession of any sort of tobacco or nicotine product.
- ❖ Use/possession of alcohol or controlled substances.
- ❖ No possession of firearms, fireworks, devices which emit a gas or odor, or any open or concealed weapons; this includes pocketknives, smoke/stink bombs, joke sprays, etc.
- ❖ Intentional destruction, defacing or damaging anything will be considered vandalism.
- ❖ Hazing or harassing (PHYSICAL OR VERBAL) of a fellow student is strictly forbidden.
- ❖ Causing, attempting, or threatening to cause physical harm to a person will be considered assault.
- ❖ Practical jokes are strictly forbidden.
- ❖ All threats will be taken seriously and punishment will occur.
- ❖ No one can be in sections of the camp not being used by the Flat Rock Band including wooded areas.
- ❖ Inappropriate use of camera on cell phones and/or posting on social media is strictly forbidden.
- ❖ Cabin doors will NOT open after lights out. Cabins are equipped with the necessary facilities you will need.
- ❖ You are not to touch any instrument that is not yours. This includes all guard equipment.
- ❖ You are not allowed in any other cabin besides your own at any time.
- ❖ You are not allowed to be in the "attic/rafters" of the cabins.
- ❖ There is a tardy policy with penalties. **THAT MEANS BE ON TIME TO ALL REHEARSALS, MEALS, AND ACTIVITIES.**
- ❖ There will be no use of profanity by anyone.
- ❖ No public displays of affection i.e., holding hands, kissing, hugging, etc.
- ❖ You are never to change clothing in the presence of members of the opposite sex.
- ❖ You will conduct yourselves as responsible/mature individuals.
- ❖ All **phone calls and texts** must be made during free time and before "lights-out" time. Absolutely no cell phones or electronic devices use during rehearsals or meals.
- ❖ **"Flip-Flops," "Slides," or Sandals or Crocs** are not to be worn outside of your cabin.
- ❖ Do not take any "camp souvenirs." This is considered theft.
- ❖ Running, chasing, Horseplay, or endangering others or your safety is not allowed at any time.
- ❖ Use or possession of "foam" type shaving cream is strictly prohibited. "Gel" type only for shaving.
- ❖ **DO NOT BRING ANY TYPE OF FOIL, TAPE, OR PLASTIC WRAP TO CAMP.**
- ❖ Junk food and beverages should be kept to a minimum **AND never brought to meals.**
- ❖ Mr. Engelbert reserves the right to send anyone, student or adult, home (via agreed mode of transportation) at any time to actions or behavior not consistent with the goals, expectations, and reputation of the Flat Rock Band. Should this be the case, the participant will be responsible for any additional expenses incurred as a result.
- ❖ Any decision/direction given by the director is final.

### Band Camp Skits

On Friday evening of Camp Week, each cabin has the opportunity to perform a skit. Any skits performed need to be appropriate and tasteful. Even though some of the **below topics** could be made funny in certain contexts, they are not appropriate for us and are to be avoided. These are very broad suggestions of inappropriate subjects Mr. Engelbert *well in advance*. If you are still unsure if it is inappropriate, it probably is.

- **Disabilities**
- **Relationships**
- **Profanity**
- **Sex or Sexual Orientation**
- **Personal Attacks**
- **Racism**

## Itinerary

We have allowed for a flexible schedule depending on weather and other variables.

### Sunday

## **7:59 a.m.** Report to high school, load bus

8:30 a.m. Leave Flat Rock HS

9:10 a.m. Arrive Flat Rock Speedway

9:45 a.m. Leave Flat Rock Speedway

12:30 p.m. (approx.) Lunch stop at West Branch, MI

3:00 p.m. (approx.) Arrive at Camp Walden, await verbal instructions.

5:30 p.m. Dinner

6:30 p.m. Marching Rehearsal

10:00 p.m. In cabins

10:30 p.m. Taps (*lights out*)

### Monday – Friday



<b>6:45a</b>	<b>Reveille</b>
<b>7:00a</b>	<b>CALISTHENICS</b> ( <i>on field</i> )
<b>7:15a</b>	<b>Cabin clean-up</b>
<b>8:00a</b>	<b>Breakfast</b>
<b>9:00a</b>	<b>MARCHING REHEARSAL</b> ( <i>cabin inspection</i> )
<b>11:30a</b>	<b>Relax Time</b>
<b>Noon</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>12:50p</b>	<b>30-Minute Rest Time</b> <i>in cabins, in beds, quiet time</i>
<b>1:30p</b>	<b>SECTIONALS</b>
<b>2:30p</b>	<b>Free Time</b>
<b>4:00p</b>	<b>MUSIC REHEARSAL</b> ( <i>5:00p Friday Beach Concert</i> )
<b>5:30p</b>	<b>Dinner</b>
<b>6:30p</b>	<b>MARCHING REHEARSAL</b> ( <i>7:00p Friday Exhibition</i> )
<b>8:30p</b>	<b>Evening Activities*</b>
<b>TBA*</b>	<b>In Cabins</b>
<b>10:30p*</b>	<b>Lights Out</b> <i>*Announced each evening</i>

### Saturday

6:45a Reveille

7:00a Calisthenics

7:15a Begin cabin clean up

8:00a Breakfast

8:30a Cabin clean-out, final inspection

9:00a Load coaches

9:30a Leave Camp Walden

10:00a Arrive Mackinaw City

12:30p Leave Mackinaw City

6:00p (approx.) Arrive Flat Rock



Flat Rock High School  
25600 Seneca Street  
Flat Rock, Michigan 48134  
734-535-6650 www.frband.org



# Band Camp 2026 Student Contract

This is an agreement made between \_\_\_\_\_ legal guardians of \_\_\_\_\_  
name of parent or guardian Bando Name  
and the Flat Rock Band Association. This agreement is binding using the below provisions.

**1. General Agreement:** The undersigned agree to pay \$560.00+ for a seven (7) day camp at Camp Walden, Cheboygan, MI. during the period of August 9 through August 15, 2026. The above fee covers motor coach transportation to and from camp, instruction, lodging and meals at camp. \$560.00 includes a \$35.00 Uniform Cleaning Fee. **SEE 1a FOR OPPORTUNITIES FOR A \$175.00 SCHOLARSHIP.**

**1a: Speedway Scholarship:** If the above-named student works a minimum of seven (7) times for Flat Rock Speedway clean-up, the band camp fee will be reduced to \$460.00 (\$100.00 Scholarship). Furthermore, any parent or representative (18 or older) who helps sell 50/50 tickets at two races (or two volunteer spots per student) will receive an additional \$75.00 Band Camp Scholarship. For both the ticket sales and clean-up, you must select your dates on "BOOSTERHUB" beforehand. **STUDENTS AND PARENTS MUST BE SIGNED UP IN ADVANCE TO BE CREDITED. Sign Up Link is on the Band Website.** Any Bando who works more than seven clean ups will receive an \$5.00 Scholarship per clean up thereafter. Any adult who fills in to sell 50/50 tickets in a "last minute" situation will receive a \$10.00 towards their Bando's Band Camp fee if the minimum of two races has been met first. You have until the last race weekend to complete this option. Simply make sure you have completed or are scheduled for required number of clean ups/sales. If by the end of the season, you do not complete this option, you will negate the scholarship opportunity and your camp fee will be \$560.00. You will be billed for the remainder of the balance. **Take note: If you or your parent/representative accumulate a total of two (2) "no shows" at a race and/or a clean-up, you will forfeit the Speedway scholarship.**

**2. Payment of Fee and Schedule of Payment:** Including deposit of \$160.00, please make all payments by check, money order OR via BoosterHub Store. Be sure to put student's name on all transactions. Make checks payable to "FLAT ROCK BAND." The student will be allowed to accumulate an account through the band by earning money through band fundraisers. Unless otherwise notified, any money in band account will automatically be credited toward student's camp cost according to the following schedule:

Payment #1	\$160.00 (Deposit+Cleaning Fee)	due May 21, 2026
Payment #2	\$125.00	due July 1, 2026
Payment #3	\$275.00 or \$100*	due August 1, 2026

*\*If Speedway option (1a) is chosen and met or scheduled (for races after camp), decrease payment #3 to \$100.00.*

**Payments:** Entire camp fee must be paid in full by August 1, 2026. PLEASE MAIL THE JUNE AND JULY PAYMENTS TO FLAT ROCK BAND, P.O. BOX 291, FLAT ROCK 48134 or SUBMIT VIA BOOSTERHUB STORE.

**Forfeiture for Non-Participation:** The undersigned agrees to forfeit all money due should the student not participate in the Camp, however, should the reason for non-participation by the student be medical and such medical reason by a certified by a medical doctor that the student is not physically able to participate, then all cash paid shall be refunded except the \$160.00 deposit.

**3. Medical or Family Emergency:** Should a medical or family emergency arise during the camp the student and parents are responsible for payment of any additional expenses incurred as a result (transportation expenses, hospital, doctor care, medicine, etc.). See Medical Release Waiver.

**4. Refusal:** The Band Director reserves the right to refuse participation to any student due to excessive absences, non-participation in band activities or for disciplinary reasons. There will be no refunds given in this case.

**5. Expulsion:** The Band Director reserves the right to send any student home (via agreed mode of transportation) at any time during the camp due to actions/behavior not consistent with the goals, expectations of the Flat Rock Band as explained in the High School Band Guidebook. There will be no refunds and the undersigned will be responsible for any additional expenses incurred.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bando Signature (optional)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



Flat Rock High School  
25600 Seneca  
Flat Rock, MI 48134



## BAND CAMP PACKING LIST

Here are the suggested items to bring to band camp with you. **Please label everything** with your name. Remember: one suitcase and one carry-on. Your instrument and sleeping bag don't count as one of those items. Space will be limited on the Motor Coaches. Large instruments will go in the Beast.

### Musical Equipment

- Instrument/Flag
- Music
- Flip folder
- Lyre
- Sharpened Pencils
- Accessories: extra reeds, grease, valve/slide oil, extra sticks/mallets, harnesses, mouthpieces.
- Menards Bag (new members will get these at camp)

### Bedding

- Sleeping bag.
- Pillow
- Alarm Clock

### Clothes

- BAND SHIRT for performance on Friday
- Shirts
- Shorts
- Long Pants (jeans)
- Jacket
- Socks (a least two pairs per day)
- Athletic Shoes (two pairs, broken in, not new)
- Under garments
- Pajamas/Sleepwear
- Rain Gear
- Sunglasses
- Hat

### Other Items

- Money for lunch on Sunday and Saturday  
- You can opt to bring a sack lunch on Sunday.
- Snacks
- Headphones
- Flashlight/batteries
- Watch or other time keeping device
- Knee/wrist braces (if needed)
- Plastic bag for dirty laundry
- Reusable water bottle

### Toiletries

- Deodorant
- Shampoo and other hair care products.
- Soap
- Comb/hairbrush
- Toothbrush and toothpaste.
- Shaving supplies (trial size gel type only)
- Feminine hygiene products.
- Any needed medications\* (see below)
- Glasses/extra contacts/solution
- Sunscreen (SPF 30 or higher)
- Bug spray
- Lip balm
- Adhesive bandages
- Elastic bandages (ACE)
- Tissue
- Hand Towel
- Bath Towel

**\*Prescription medication: Keep in original pharmacy container, clearly labeled with dosage instructions. Pack medications separately, as they must be given to Mrs. Engelbert at check-in, and will be dispensed as instructed.**

**Reminder of what NOT to bring**  
bottled water (*we provide*) - energy drinks - plastic wrap - balloons - water guns - glow sticks - knives - adhesive tape - aluminum foil - illegal items - practical joke items - bad attitude - foul mouth