

MARCHING BAND UNIFORM INFORMATION

The parka, shako, and gauntlets are being sent home today and are your responsibility until they are turned in at the end of the season. The actual uniform will stay at the school. The most important thing to remember in taking care of your uniform parts is to air dry anything that gets damp or wet. Anytime your shako, gauntlets, gloves, or parka get wet, whether it is with sweat or rain, you will need to air dry them. If you pack them away wet or damp, they will mold! You will then be responsible for replacement costs. Parkas should be hung when wet until they are dried and then rolled up and put back in your red bag. Gauntlets should be stood on their ends to dry; if you lay them flat, they will not dry as quickly and will mold.

If you ordered shoes during Band Camp, they will be delivered before the Lakota Convocation on August 14th. When you get them, be sure to write your last name with a sharpie on the insole. Some band members like to put the Dr. Scholl inserts in their shoes to add a little cushion and warmth. But this is optional.

Remember that you must wear a short-sleeved, black t-shirt and a pair of shorts (gym shorts) underneath your uniform. Everyone changes into their uniforms together. You must also wear black socks that come at least half-way up your calf. Hair should not go past the collar, and must be neatly secured. Males must be cleanly shaven. Females cannot wear foundation or powder makeup. No visible jewelry can be worn, including earrings and piercings.

If your instrument uses a neck strap, you will need to wash the strap frequently. These get very sweaty and leave black marks on the uniform that are very difficult to remove. Some marchers have opted to have two straps, one for everyday practice and one for performances. This is recommended but not required. You must have a clean strap for all performances.

The summer uniform consists of the red polo and the black athletic shorts. The red polo must be tucked into the shorts. Two buttons must be buttoned on the shirt and no t-shirt should be worn under it. Shorts must be worn at the waist. Marchers wear gym shoes with the summer uniform with white no-show socks.

The uniform committee works very hard to make sure that the Lakota West Marching Firebirds look their best at all games and competitions, and we expect the students to do their best to take care of their uniforms and make sure they have everything they need when they arrive at a band event. We are also here to help the students with any problems or questions. If you have a problem or question please contact me at uniforms@lakotawestbands.org. You can also ask one of the other uniform moms, if one happens to be around. We are always happy to help you!

Have a great season!

Amy Koenes