

Rompin' Stompin' Raider Band

Uniform Care and Information

Uniform Description: SMS provides most of the uniform parts—bibs and jacket on a hanger, a pair of gauntlets, a pair of black gloves, shako and shako box. Each student is responsible for LONG, PLAIN black socks and shoes. Shoes can be purchased through our committee—we have some used shoes for \$5 but we also order new shoes at the beginning of each season for \$30.

Uniform Fitting and Issue: The Uniform Committee and volunteers will be at those first two days of band camp at the end of July. The committee will be back on the following Monday to fit the first hour marchers. We will be back to fit the fifth hour marchers after school starts, during their band class time. Note that we will do our best to get a good fit for each student, but we do ask that everyone be patient with the process. The bibs and jackets have snaps to shorten the legs and sleeves; however, some may need to have their bibs hemmed or altered even more. If new shoes are to be ordered we will collect the student's size and information when they see us on measurement day.

Before a marcher can take his/her uniform home we MUST have ALL of the following:

- Band Contract Signed by both marcher and parent/guardian
- Band Dues Paid in Full
- Payment for Shoes (if marcher needs shoes, used or new)

Uniform Alterations and Care: It is important that the students all look good for our performances and competitions by having the proper uniform fit. At competitions, how good we look is one of the criteria. The pants should have one break in the leg just above the shoe. If the bibs cannot be shortened enough with the snaps in the legs, the uniform chair may take care of the addition of snaps, or you will be directed to someone who will.

It is absolutely vital that you do NOT:

- Cut off any material
- Sew permanently
- Use any type of tape

The district allows us to replace the uniforms only every 10-12 years so proper care must be taken to keep them looking their best for as long as possible. **Please do NOT wash in the laundry!** We will have all the uniforms dry cleaned at the end of the season. If you feel a cleaning is needed during the season please use a dry cleaner. Weldon Cleaners on 135th St does terrific work at the most reasonable price we've found.

Uniforms should NOT be left in the Band Room. They should go home with the marcher after each marching event but should NOT be left wadded up in the trunk of a car or in a heap on the bedroom floor!! **Smooth the bibs with the creases out and hang, using the trouser bar. Place the jacket on the hanger, putting the numbers together and zip. Please hang them in a closet, or somewhere the uniform will not reach the ground. Gauntlets and gloves should be kept neatly folded in the shako box with the shako.** The shako boxes will be kept in the uniform room unless they need to absolutely go home, like over a parade weekend or possibly for a competition.

IF you absolutely need to iron the bibs at home, please only use steam. There is a special sheen on the bibs that will 'cook' out if you do not. We have a special pants press here at school that we can use on the uniform if you'd rather. Just send your student to school a little earlier than requested and the volunteer in the uniform room will take care of it.

Uniform Return: The committee will collect all uniform parts at the end of the marching season. Traditionally, this is done at the chili supper and concert in early December.

EVERYTHING that we have provided must be returned at this time, including the hanger. You get to keep the shoes and socks. The used gloves will be thrown away at the end of each season.

Volunteers: If you are interested in helping with either the measuring and fitting in July, or with the uniform turn-in evening in December, watch your emails for sign up opportunities via Sign-Up Genius. There is always a need to help in the band room at each marching event before the kids are to meet. There is always someone who needs a new pair of gloves or help with their hair, or something.

If you have any questions at any time please feel free to contact Amy Knudsen at 913-638-9389 or erikamyknudsen@hotmail.com.