

## **Watauga High Band Receives 'Excellent'**

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Watauga High School's Pioneer Marching Band concluded its season with a flourish on Saturday, October 27th, taking first place among five Class 1A high school bands participating in a marching band competition in Wilkes County. In addition to taking first place, the Pioneers achieved an "Excellent" overall rating and won first place rankings in the categories of percussion, marching, and general effect. The band also scored a second place ranking in music. Band Director Tim Walker said he is "extremely happy with the quality of the band's performances this year. They have consistently placed well in our marching band contests and that is very impressive considering the high quality of the competition we have faced. When we competed with six bands at North Lincoln High School on October 6th, all of them were exceptional, and another band director commented that the bands were the strongest from top to bottom that he has seen in the nine years they've had that contest." The Pioneers received an "Excellent" rating at this competition. At another competition in Avery County on September 29th, the Watauga's marching band achieved a "Superior" rating and took second place overall. Walker praised the work of his students, saying they have shown steady growth and that they have represented the high school very well both in halftime performances at football games and in their marching band competitions.

WHS marching band at the competition in Wilkes County. While the contest season is over for the Pioneers Marching Band, it will perform in the Blowing Rock and Boone Christmas parades on November 24th and December 1st. The band will close out its 2012 schedule on December 10th at 6:00 p.m. in a holiday concert featuring both the orchestra and band of Watauga High School at the school's Ross Auditorium. The concert is free and the public is invited to attend.