

Bryant High School Band Handbook



Notice of Non-Discrimination

Notice of Non-Discrimination Bryant Public Schools (BPS) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The following people at BPS have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: The Director of Human Resources/Legal Affairs should be contacted for all non-student and/or employment related issues at 501-847-5600. Inquiries concerning nondiscrimination can also be made to the United States Department of Education's Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights.

Updated: March 29, 2017

Welcome

Welcome to one of the most exciting organizations available to your student! The band at Bryant High School is the apex of our instrumental music program, which encompasses the Bryant Freshmen Academy, and Bethel and Bryant Middle Schools. As a staff, we are committed to offering the best available instruction and the widest array of events for our members.

We strongly believe that there is a place for everyone in the band. We have hundreds of success stories. Many times, members who thought they were not interested have become some of the most dedicated students once they have been a part of the experience. If you choose to participate, you can reap a variety of rewards. In addition to all of this, you become a member of a very active, multifaceted family.

The Bryant Band Program has established itself as one of the finest in our state and region, with superb performing ensembles in marching, symphonic, chamber music, color guard and drumline activities.

We hope that you share our excitement in creating these phenomenal opportunities for the students. We encourage parents to be active supporters of our efforts through the Band Parent Organization (BPO), assistance in fundraising, and through volunteer work such as chaperones, equipment crew, or as a parent leader. We also hope that you will be visible supporters of the students by attending as many performances as possible.

This handbook should help orient you and your student to the many different aspects of the band program. Attendance at BPO meetings is still advised. The band program produces a calendar kept on our website www.thelegacyofbryant.com; you'll want to keep it nearby. Feel free to contact any director of BPO officer for help and remember to come to the meetings to get the latest information about each event.

Rarely do you see such a large group of students assembled in one organization with such a strong focus on achieving excellence. Take the opportunity to get to know the instructors, other parents, and the members who make our success a reality.

On behalf of all high school band directors and staff.

Keith Matthews

Director of Bands, Bryant Public Schools

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Preface

This handbook describes the Bryant High School Band Program and its policies, rules, and regulations.

Band members are required to follow the policies, rules, and regulations of the Bryant Public Schools and the Band Program. School rules and policies are in force at all times that a member is directly or indirectly involved in any activity sponsored by or in the name of Bryant High School. School policy shall have priority over band policy in the event of any policy conflict.

The band directors shall have authority to suspend or amend any band policy at any time deemed necessary in the best interest of the overall band program.

Communication

Directors

Director of Bands

Keith Matthews - kmatthews@bryantschools.org - (501) 420-3786

Assistant Director

Jay Chipman - jchipman@bryantschools.org - (501) 847-5605 ext. 2335

Assistant Director

Josh Gardner - jgardner@bryantschools.org - (501) 847-5605 ext. 2335

Freshmen Academy Director

Stewart Wright - stwright@bryantschools.org - (501) 847-5605 ext. 2335

Staff

Andrew Poland

Guard Director

Max Applegate

Visual Coordinator

TBA

Percussion Tech

BPO

President

Cheryl Smith

Vice President

Michelle Stienke

Treasurer

Kathy Boyte

Secretary

TBA

BPO Contact: thelegacy.parents@gmail.com

REMIND

FULL BAND TEXT COMMUNICATION

TEXT @bryantband to 810-10

WIND ENSEMBLE TEXT COMMUNICATION

TEXT @legacywe to 810-10

SYMPHONIC BAND TEXT COMMUNICATION

TEXT @bhs-symph to 810-10

CONCERT BAND TEXT COMMUNICATION

TEXT @legacycb to 810-10

DRUMLINE / PERCUSSION COMMUNICATION

TEXT @legacydrum to 810-10

Team App

Download our awesome new app now and stay up to date with all the latest information!

1. Download TeamApp from the Apple or Google Play app store.
2. Sign-up to TeamApp. You will be sent an email to confirm registration.
3. Log into the app and search for "Bryant Bands".
4. Choose your applicable access group.

Social Media

Facebook - Bryant High School Bands

Twitter - @BryantBands

Instagram - BryantBands

*Please note social media accounts are primarily used for communication with the community

Objectives

The Bryant Bands form an integral part of school life and are recognized as an all-school activity. Band is one of the largest voluntary student organizations and its members form an active group.

The primary objectives of the band program are:

- Educational - to develop interested and discriminating listeners, provide a well-rounded musical education and prepare members for musical activities beyond high school.
- Service - to lend color and atmosphere to certain school and community affairs while promoting and enhancing the dignity and reputation of Bryant High School at all appearances.
- Citizenship - to develop the ability to function as a responsible member of the group, to enhance the member's ability to interact with others in a positive manner, and to develop the ability to function as a responsible member of the community.
- Recreational - to provide all members with the opportunity for worthy use of leisure time, an emotional outlet, and good social experiences.

Components

Concert Bands

Wind Ensemble - Keith Matthews

This group is selected through individual music auditions and meets during 1st period each school day. The Wind Ensemble performs the most demanding literature of the concert ensembles (Grade IV, V, VI literature). Students will be required to audition for All-Region Band and participate in the clinic, if selected. Students will also tryout for All-State Band, if they qualify. They are also required to participate in any other performances and rehearsals that may occur outside of normal school hours.

Symphonic Band - Jay Chipman

This group is selected through individual music auditions and meets during 6th period each school day. The Symphonic Band also performs demanding literature (Grade III, IV, and V). Students will be required to audition for All Region Band and attend the Clinic, if selected. Students are also required to participate in any other performances and rehearsals that may occur outside of normal school hours.

Concert Band - Josh Gardner

This group is selected through individual music auditions and meets during 5th period each school day. The Concert Band performs appropriate literature as determined by the director (Grade II, III, and IV). Students may choose to audition for All Region Band, at the discretion of the director, and will be expected to attend the Clinic if selected. Students are also required to participate in any other performances and rehearsals that may occur outside of normal school hours.

Percussive Arts

Percussion - Jay Chipman

This course is designed to help percussion students further their musical skills outside of regular band class. Students will rehearse and perform with others. They will be taught music reading skills, musicality, music terminology, music history, and music theory. We will work on music to be performed with the bands and orchestra, as well as music to be performed on our own as a percussion ensemble. Students will also be required to prepare short solos on the various percussion instruments (better known as pass-offs). During the first semester our primary focus will be on marching band. During the rest of the year we will focus on concert music and percussion ensembles. It is important to remember that the students in this class are part of the Bryant High School Band Program.

Athletic Bands

Marching Band

The Bryant High School Marching Band is divided into two ensembles. Both are considered extracurricular activities and meet solely outside of the school day.

The Tradition

This ensemble is comprised of both competitive and noncompetitive band members. The marching band performs at all home football games, pep assemblies, parades, and will go to most away games, but may only be a smaller select group (Pep Band) depending on time of year and travel distance.

The Legacy

This is our competitive marching band that performs at in and out-of-state competitions during the fall semester. Evaluations for spots in the competition show are based on marching and music fundamentals. Each member is integral in the success of the program, as the group must perform as a whole. It takes dedication and consistent practice to reach this goal. The demands for this ensemble are more intensive than The Tradition, and students are expected to meet all of the necessary requirements detailed below.

Membership Requirements:

1. Each student will perform a marching and musical audition to secure a spot.
2. Attend ALL Summer Band, After-School, and other designated rehearsals.
3. Attend ALL Performances (required football games, parades, contests, etc.)
4. Pass off designated show music and drill by dates assigned.

**All members of The Legacy are considered to be members of The Tradition, as well.

"The Sting" - Basketball Pep Band

The band program will perform at seven or eight basketball games. The band will be split into three or four equal pep bands. Sign ups for pep bands will most likely be in December, before we leave for Christmas Break. The bands will be split with equal instrumentation. Each band will be assigned specific games on a specific date. You are required to be at the scheduled games that you are assigned. You may play at as many games as you wish, but you MUST attend the games of the specific pep band that you are assigned. If you have an excused absence, you may make up the missed game. You may also trade games with a fellow student of the same instrument with director's permission/consent.

Guard - Fall and Winter

This class meets during the 7th period of each school day. Color Guard is a physical activity course offered to students in 10th - 12th grades that combines dance, theater, and the unique activity of guard. This course is a yearlong performance based course that consists of Color Guard in the fall and Winter Guard in the spring. Auditions will be held in April of each year. Fall performances will be at Football Games, Marching Contests and Parades that the BHS marching band attends. Spring performances will be held within a competitive winter guard circuit of the staff's choosing. In addition to the class, after school rehearsals and weekend performance events will be required.

Jazz

Jazz Ensemble - Keith Matthews

Jazz Ensemble will meet as a regular class during the school day. Rehearsals may be set up after marching band to include others not in the class. Instrumentation will be limited to Saxophones, Trombones, Trumpets, Guitar, Bass, Piano, and Drum Set. Repertoire for this group will consist of a range of standard big classics and newer jazz works. Students will work on playing with correct jazz styles and improvisation skills. Jazz students will be expected to tryout for All Region Jazz Band. Most performances will be outside of the school day.

AP Music Theory

AP Music Theory - Keith Matthews

AP Music Theory integrates aspects of melody, harmony, texture, rhythm, form, musical analysis, elementary composition, and to some extent history and style. Musicianship skills such as dictation and other listening skills, sight singing, and keyboard harmony are considered an important part of the theory course. The student's ability to read and write musical notation is fundamental to this course. It is strongly recommended that the student will have acquired at least basic performance skills in voice or on an instrument. The ultimate goal of this course is to develop a student's ability to recognize, understand, and describe the basic materials and processes of music that are heard or presented in a score.

Policies, Rules, Regulations

Discipline

- a. The following conduct is strictly prohibited and may result in immediate dismissal from the band:
 - smoking, use of alcohol, or other drugs
 - fighting
 - unsportsmanlike conduct
 - inappropriate language at school, practice, games, or competitions
 - inappropriate physical contact
 - theft
- b. Any band member assigned to In-School Suspension on the day of an event, may not attend the event without permission from a principal.
- c. Any band member in a leadership position (i.e. - section leader) may lose leadership status at any time during the season if the band director deems it necessary.
- d. Any behavior the band director(s) deems intolerable, such as insubordination, poor attitude, and the inability to get along with others, may result in dismissal from The Legacy Marching Band. One warning will be given before dismissal is granted, along with parental contact. Other consequences may be an option due to the severity of the incident.

Attendance

By virtue of membership in the Bryant High School Bands, you have placed upon yourself an obligation not only to yourself, but also the entire organization. Because it is our desire to achieve the finest possible results, attendance at all rehearsals and performances by every band member is mandatory. It would be unrealistic, however, to assume that absences due to illness, death in the family, and other valid reasons do not occur. The following attendance policy has been instituted to explain and define the absence policy of the instrumental music department. These attendance regulations have been designed to maintain the excellence of the Bryant High School Bands and will help to ensure that membership in the group continues to be a worthwhile and educationally rewarding experience for all. Members have a responsibility to fellow students and should contribute his/her best effort at all times.

Excused Absences - member will notify the director prior to event or rehearsal, when possible.

- a. Personal illness
- b. Death in family

Unexcused Absences - any absence not listed above. This includes miscellaneous absences that have not been approved by the director.

- Work is not considered an excused absence.
- College Visitations will not be excused if taken on performance dates.
- Family Vacations

NOTE: Occasionally, other dates for events and/or rehearsals arise within the school year. These dates will be required and part of the students' grades so long as the following has occurred:

- A minimum notice of one week (1 week) has been given by the director if the date was originally on the band's calendar but the times have changed.
- A minimum notice of two weeks (2 weeks) has been given by the director if the date was not originally on the band's calendar.

Every effort is made to avoid changing dates/times on the calendar, however, there are special circumstances that cause the need for alterations. Students, and parents alike, should fulfill their commitment to the band.

Procedures Regarding Absences from Summer Band Rehearsals, After School Practices, and Events

- a. Written notification from a parent or guardian with the student's name, reason for the absence, date of the absence, phone number, and signature must be submitted for each absence to the director of the organization. Email notification is acceptable but only from the parent's email address.
- b. All advance absence requests require the note to be turned in to the director ONE WEEK in ADVANCE. The director will determine if the absence will be excused or unexcused.
- c. If a student misses a rehearsal or performance due to an emergency, the student should turn in a note of explanation immediately upon his/her return.

Instrument Rental

The Bryant High School Band program provides certain instruments for the use of students. If a student uses one of these school-owned instruments, a non-refundable rental fee of \$75 is charged to help defray costs of cleaning, maintenance, and repair of these instruments. The rental payment is due at the time the instrument is checked out by the student. Checks are made payable to "Bryant Bands".

Notice: Students will be held financially responsible for repairs occurring due to any type of misuse or accidental damage. The band will cover "normal wear and tear".

Uniforms

1. Never wear the uniform to events other than those designated by the director. Always wear the entire uniform as intended.
2. Never wear excessive jewelry or makeup while in uniform.
3. You are responsible for the exact numbered uniform item that you receive.
4. Bryant Bands will provide hat, jacket, and a garment bag. Each member is responsible for purchasing a polo, long black socks, marching shoes, gloves, and black bibber pants, as well as a band t-shirt to wear under the uniform. Each student will also need a pair of black pants to wear with the polo shirt. We use these in warm weather at football games, parades, etc...
5. Uniforms are inspected before every performance. Everything must be clean and in good repair. Failure to comply with this policy may lead to being excluded from performing.
6. Please wash black bibbers WEEKLY!

Social Media

Your membership with Bryant Bands is a privilege--not a right. As a member, there is a high expectation for you to conduct yourself in a respectable manner at all times. This includes any form of internet post, profile, blog, website, or app connected to you or about you. Your internet pages/spaces provide much information about you in a public venue. From the information you provide, the pictures you link and the bulletins posted, a profile is established about your character and online reputation. It is important that you take as much care with this "online" reputation as you do with your "real life" reputation. You are responsible for your profile. Your profile is an extension of you and directly affects, and reflects upon our program.

Illegal or Inappropriate Content: If you have any illegal content or information displayed on your profile, or any is found on any other profile or internet site, you will be held to either the BHS Code of Student Conduct or the Extracurricular Code of Conduct rules and regulations.

The following are our suggestions:

- Have a password protected profile and only allow people you know to access it.
- Consider allowing your parents access to your site.
- No inappropriate pictures (such as smoking, alcohol, drug paraphernalia, or anything sexual in content)
- Do not post or keep any posts of foul language or sexually explicit comments.
- Do not choose to support advertisements on your profile that promote alcohol, smoking or sexually explicit materials.
- Do not bully other students on profiles or chat forums, or participate in such conversations.
- Do not post negative comments related in any way to your band.
- All members are encouraged to “like” the Bryant High School Band's Facebook group and “follow” @BryantBands on Twitter.

Again, if you have inappropriate material on your profile, you will be asked to remove it immediately. If the problem continues, parents will be contacted and the school discipline policy will be followed. Severe cases could result in removal from the program.

Financial Policy

Individual accounts are setup for each student. These accounts may be used by the student for band fees, instrument needs, uniform needs and any travel related expenses. The accounts are funded by payments into the account and/or money earned by the student by participating in fundraisers. During the year, fundraising opportunities are provided for the student to earn money for his/her account. As the band organization is a non-profit organization, we must pay our bills in a professional and timely manner. It is important you pay your fees by the dates listed to provide the needed cash flow necessary for us to conduct our affairs. If at any time you experience difficulty meeting the payment schedule please contact Mr. Matthews. It is very important to have communication between the parent and the band boosters regarding payment. We will work with you on a payment schedule other than listed above if that would make it easier.

Fee Payment Schedule

First-Year (Non-Competitive)

Installment 1 - May 25th	\$75
Installment 2 - August 31st	\$75
Total	\$150 *does not include instrument rental fee or extra items*

Upperclassmen (Non-Competitive)

Installment 1 - May 25th	\$30
Installment 2 - August 31st	\$30
Total	\$60 *does not include instrument rental fee or extra items*

Competitive Band

Installment 1 - May 25th	\$50
Installment 2 - July 28th	\$150
Installment 3 - August 31st	\$185
Total	\$385 *does not include instrument rental fee or extra items*

Physical Guidelines Policy

The Bryant Band department and its competitive ensembles require a high degree of physical training and conditioning. It is part of the curriculum of each ensemble to develop and maintain a certain level of athletic coordination and conditioning that in turn is part of the program for competitions. With this understood there are several guidelines the staff and students need to be aware of and follow. All students and parents are aware that physical conditioning, training and endurance are an integral part of the skill sets required for any type of success of the extracurricular or cocurricular activities. All of these ensembles will require a certain level of physical ability to participate and thrive in the extracurricular or co-curricular ensemble. Inability in certain areas of physical training or conditioning could jeopardize the student's ability to actively participate in one of the extra-curricular or co-curricular activities. These issues could be because physical skill sets or medical reasons. Students who have medical issues should have their doctor's permission to participate in any of these extra-curricular or co-curricular activities. In addition the student and or parent should discuss the situation with the director of the activity prior to any rehearsals or practices. It will be at the discretion of the Director to proceed or disallow the student's participation in any situation that might put the director, the band department, or the Bryant Public Schools at risk or liability for any injuries or medical situations. If an emergency does occur the band boosters will have a designated adult to provide support to student and/or staff to make the appropriate decisions regarding what is best for the student.

Clothing Guidelines

During the really warm days of the year, students are to wear comfortable solid white t-shirt, athletic shorts, socks and tennis shoes to all rehearsals. When the weather cools, students may wear loose fitting pants (school code) in place of shorts. Not adhering to these guidelines may result in a student being benched from the show. Please listen to weather reports in the morning or evening and plan your attire accordingly. When after school rehearsals begin, you must bring the proper rehearsal attire to change into.

Procedures

1) Buses:

- Seating
 - Band members may be required to sit in designated seats by same gender.
 - Band members are permitted to sign up to request specific seats and seatmates. Those who fail to sign up will be assigned a seat.
 - Food and drink policy is subject to bus driver. Assume the worst--hope for the best.
 - Stay seated when buses are in motion and when requested to do so.
 - As a general rule, leave it cleaner than you found it.
- Chaperones
 - Chaperones ride on buses
 - Band members are expected to respond appropriately to directions given by chaperones.

2) Rehearsal Guidelines For Students:

- Students are expected to be ready with ALL supplies at the start time of each rehearsal/performance.
- EARLY IS ON TIME, ON TIME IS LATE, LATE IS UNACCEPTABLE!!
- Students should behave considerately during rehearsal.
- Talking is not allowed. Talking leads to distractions, which lead to mistakes.
- Cell phones are NOT ALLOWED during rehearsal. In case of emergency, students can be reached by calling the high school office.

- At certain times solo playing prior to the start or after the end of rehearsal are prohibited. The director will specify these occasions.
- There are only four (4) places your instrument should be (school owned or privately owned)
 - In your hands
 - Lined up in a section
 - Lined up in the cases
 - In your band locker

3) Pep Rallies

- Band will wear either their Summer Uniform or Band T-shirt as announced by directors.
- Band is dismissed from class to go to the band hall to prior to Pep Rally.
- Band is dismissed by director to return to class.

4) Football Games

- Band report times will vary with the football schedule and will be announced prior to the day of the game. Itineraries will be sent out as soon as possible that week.
- Members should remain in full uniform for the entire event unless instructed by the directors.
- Instrument cases should be left in the band hall--except in the event of inclement weather.
- No band member is permitted to leave in advance of group dismissal unless excused by the director.
- Only members are allowed in the assigned section and surrounding area. Others will be escorted out.
- Inappropriate cheers are not permitted.
- Give full attention to directors, staff, chaperones, and the Drum Majors.

5) Transportation

- Members must ride buses to and from events unless previously arranged.
- Students must be checked out by a parent/guardian IN PERSON in order to ride home with them. Parent/guardian must sign out with the student's bus chaperone.
- It is requested that students, parents and friends DO NOT PARK in unmarked areas around the band building or at other events.
- Please reserve parking places directly outside the band building for the band directors.
- Please do not park near the band semi-tractor trailer or where it is typically parked.
- Members are personally responsible for loading and unloading their own equipment from trucks and buses even if they ride home with parents/guardians.
- Students should make transportation arrangements prior to events. Directors are responsible for band members until events are completed. Please pick your student up in a timely manner following their dismissal from all performances and rehearsals.

Forms

The following pages are printable versions of the required forms. They are also made available for electronic submission via our website (www.thelegacyofbryant.com).

All Forms Due Thursday, May 25th, 2017

Bryant High School Band Handbook Acknowledgment and Agreement Form

WE HAVE READ THE BRYANT BAND HANDBOOK AND AGREE TO SUPPORT THE DIRECTORS IN THEIR ENDEAVORS TO MAINTAIN AN EXCELLENT PROGRAM BY UNDERSTANDING AND ABIDING BY THE ORGANIZATION'S POLICIES.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Contact Information: *Please* PRINT

Student's Name _____

Grade _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Email Address _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

MEDICAL RELEASE FORM

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

In the event my child should be injured and neither parent can be reached, I the undersigned do hereby authorize officials of the Bryant Schools to contact directly with the person named on the card and do authorize the named physician to render such treatment as may be deemed necessary in an emergency for the health of the said child. In the even physicians or other named person on this card cannot be contacted, the officials are hereby authorized to take whatever action is deemed necessary in their judgement for the health of aforementioned child. I will not hold the Bryant School District financially responsible for the emergency care and or transportation for said child. I give permission for a copy of the Emergency Medical Card to be given to any medical personnel involved in rendering medical care or transporting my child.

Student's Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

Mother/Guardian _____ Phone _____

Father/Guardian _____ Phone _____

Other Contact in case of emergency:

Name _____ Phone _____ Relationship _____

Family Physician _____ Phone _____

Specific medical allergies, chronic illnesses, or other PHYSICAL conditions that could hinder marching ability:

Current Medication _____

Medicaid # _____ Student's ID # _____

Name of Insurance Company _____

Insurance Group # _____ Policy # _____

Please note: Students needing any medication (including aspirin and non-aspirin pain relief tabs) while on a band trip must bring it themselves. Band chaperones or school personnel are not permitted to dispense medication.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

BRYANT HIGH SCHOOL DRUG TESTING CONSENT FORM

Organization: High School Band

STUDENTS

As a student in the Bryant School District who participates in the activities at Bryant High School, I do hereby consent to abide by and comply with the chemical screen test policy of the Bryant School District.

Student

Date

Male / Female (circle one)

SSN or Student ID#

Grade Level

Organization Sponsor: Keith Matthews

PARENTS

As the Parents/Guardians of _____ (student name)
we do hereby consent to the policy of the Bryant School District regarding chemical screen tests for participants in the Bryant School District Activities program. We agree to abide by and comply with this policy as a condition to our child's participation in activities in the Bryant School District.

Parent/ Guardian

Date

Bryant Bands Social Media Contract

STUDENTS

I understand the Bryant Bands standards for behavior regarding the internet. I agree to uphold these standards and I understand that failure to do so will result in consequences as outlined in the contract. I will do everything in my power to be a positive contributing member at all times, both in and out of school.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

PARENTS

I understand the Bryant Bands standards for behavior regarding the internet. I will do everything in my power to assure that my child is a positive contributing member at all times, both in and out of school.

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

The Legacy

Commitment to Performance

STUDENTS

1. Any member of The Legacy that is selected must perform full out each day to the best of their abilities. The director reserves the right to permanently remove and replace any student not practicing at a satisfactory level.
2. All members must have a positive attitude each day and be willing to help any team member when needed. You must always think as a team, not as an individual.
3. Members are expected to put forth the time and effort needed to raise their standards when it comes to technique and performance ability. Everyday is a day to improve and become a better performer.

I understand what is expected of me as a member of The Legacy and will commit 100% each day.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

PARENTS

I understand what is expected of my student as a member of the Legacy. I will commit 100% of my support to my child and their performance.

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Alternate Student Travel Form

My son/daughter, _____ (student name),

will return from _____ (destination of trip)

with _____ (adult driver's name).

I hereby release and hold harmless the Bryant School District, its Trustees, employees, and agents from any and all liability in connection with this alternate method of travel for this school trip.

Parent Signature

Date

Office Use Only:

Approved

Disapproved

Signature of Director or Designee

Date

The Top 16 Things You Should Know as a Student

BAND MEMBERS SHARE WISDOM AND SURVIVAL TIPS FOR MARCHING BAND.

1. DRINK WATER!!
2. ALWAYS be on time, which really means 10-15 minutes early.
3. When in doubt, stop talking.
4. Show respect to everyone and listen to what 'veterans' have to say. They're probably right.
5. Don't expect to know everything the first day. Even people who have marched before still have things to learn.
6. DRINK MORE WATER!!
7. Take things seriously, but not TOO seriously. In the end, as Mr. Wright might say, "It is only high school marching band."
8. We are very good at what we do because we can focus when we need to.
9. Stay well rested, fed, and **hydrated**.
10. Always have all your materials on you or close enough that you can get them quickly.
11. Know how to work, but also know how to relax. Know that the two NEVER occur at the same time, EVER.
12. DRINK WATER!!
13. Keep up on your schoolwork. Take every opportunity to do your homework. On the bus, extra time in class, at appointments — do whatever it takes. Be as productive as possible.
14. You will be called out eventually. Don't be afraid. When it happens, just speak up and don't worry about being wrong.
14. Always trust the instructors. Especially when you think they aren't right. They are rarely wrong.
15. DRINK WATER!!
16. You may want to quit. But DON'T!

The Top Nine Things You Should Know as a Band Parent

9. Your student is probably more capable than you realize. - Even if you have all the time in the world, you will start to feel like a personal servant if you don't ask your kids to take some responsibility for their own stuff. Water jugs, lunches, props, laundry -- it never ends. Your student can make a sandwich, fill up a water jug, and set out their 'stuff'. If you are inclined, help them create checklists so that they remember everything they need to bring. It will be a lot of stuff, so be ready.

8. Get out of the car and come join us. - Adults can enter the band room without ill effect! Be respectful of practices going on, but come on in and see what is happening. Frequently, there are parents working on projects or hanging around. It is a great time to make introductions and let people know you are new to the band program and would like to get involved.

7. Learn to manage your time and teach your student how to manage theirs. - You WILL be busy -- especially from August until the middle of November. You will receive calendars in emails, but you MUST find a way to keep track of everything. More importantly, your student will have to balance band and school work. Many of the band kids are honor students, and the time management skills they learn will help them throughout their life.

6. Bring cash, warm clothes and something to sit on. - Most school functions require that you bring cash. Invitationals (defined later on) charge admission, anywhere from \$5 to \$10 per person. Children under 5 are usually admitted free. You MUST bring cash. Concessions are cash only, as are some souvenir vendors.

5. Take care of your Band Moms/Dads. - If you would make a drawing of the perfect Band Mom (It is usually a MOM but it doesn't have to be), she/he would have six arms, three heads, and a heart of pure gold. Remarkably, Band Moms accomplish amazing things without the extra appendages. These are the people who dress your student, fix their hair, and wash their socks. They dispense wisdom, encouragement and snacks with laughter and generosity. They are the people on the front lines who make sure your student is ready to go on the field. This is a job that deserves far more recognition than most understand, so please ask how you can assist.

4. Hydrate and feed your student. - Most of the medical issues that we deal with in marching band are when students neglect to eat or drink water, especially on performance days or Friday nights. Make sure that your student eats regular meals during the day and consistently drinks water. They should be making regular trips to the restroom throughout the day.

3. Band Directors are people, too. - But they are BUSY people. They work long hours and their main focus is the kids. If you have a specific concern about your child and the band program, set up a time to discuss it. If you need general information, directors are probably not your best resource. Try a fellow parent first, another Band Booster. On another note: Marching band requires dedication and discipline from your student. The job of the directors is to help your student excel in band. Directors speak loudly, pointedly and sometimes without pleasantries. When mistakes are made, especially due to inattention or lack of effort, there are consequences. Try to relax and allow the process to work. Encourage your student to do their best, listen, and work hard. Everyone wants your child to be successful. You will learn this as you move through the season.

2. We can't do it without you—volunteer and come to the booster meetings. - You will be asked to commit time, energy, donations and the band fees to the band program. Unlike many sports programs, the Legacy must have parent volunteers for the programs to run smoothly, and it is the best way to get to know others. Plan to attend as many Booster meetings as you can. They are only once a month for about an hour. Mr. Matthews usually addresses the parents with updates on the show and will answer parent questions. It is time well spent. About volunteering ... no experience necessary. No, REALLY! There are tasks that require specific skills, but most opportunities do not. If you can pull a soda from a cooler, use scissors, sew, build props, or muscles to move things - you have all the skills you need. Better yet, there is so much to do, you are bound to find something you actually enjoy doing. Trust us, we've been there.

1. Yes, it's worth it! - All of the rides, time, and effort that as a parent, you put into getting your child to practices are worth every second. You may not be able to appreciate that in the beginning. Your student may get discouraged at first. There is a lot of repetition, hot sweaty days, failures, and disappointments. Then the show starts to come together and everything changes. There is a new energy, a new excitement. This is the point where they will either LOVE band, or plan a different activity next year. Most of the kids LOVE band by the end of the season, so make them tough it out for the whole season. It will be worth it.