

YOU KNOW YOU'RE A MARCHING BAND PARENT WHEN ...

You make 2 or more trips to the high school almost every day, starting in late July.

You CAN'T pick your child out of the crowd because they all look alike.

You CAN pick your child out in the formations when the marching band performs.

You prominently display a band calendar in your kitchen and have band dates marked on your work calendar.

You know the correct time to cheer...D-U-K-E-S after the fight song is played

You know what "Three Words" means.

Your newest best friends are fellow band parents!!

Conclusion

We hope this has been helpful. Anytime you feel lost, tap a "veteran" parent on the shoulder and ask for help! Our goal is for each student to have a great experience being a member of the Marching Dukes of Marlinton and to continue the tradition of musical excellence that has been our trademark.

The Marching Dukes of Marlinton



*Parent Handbook
2022-2023*

MARCHING BAND 101

A guide for new band parents (and veterans too)

This booklet is the product of former “new band parents” who spent a good bit of time in our first year in various stages of confusion. In the many hours we spent watching practices, picking up our kids, and going to competitions/shows we have all felt confused, lost and totally bewildered at one time or another. We hope this document will help ease you through the transition from “new” band parent to “veteran” band parent.

For most of us (parents and students alike), the transition from middle school band to the high school band program is huge, especially in marching band. The increased expectations come with greater rewards in terms of your student’s accomplishments, and the pride you will have in watching them succeed. This document is an attempt to share with you some of the finer points of making the most of your years as a band parent.

The MHS Marching Band program is supported by a parent run organization - the MHS Band Boosters. The Band Boosters exist solely through volunteer parents in order to help provide your students with an enjoyable and rewarding band experience. Please help us meet this challenge by volunteering your time and talents. The students will reap the benefits. We welcome all new parents and look forward to getting to know you and your students!

Specific Fees associated with participation in the band (concert or marching) will be shared with you throughout the year. These fees are used to offset the expense of running the Marching and Concert Bands, including band camp, uniforms, transportation, staff, etc. The band camp fee this year is noted on the Personal Equipment Order Form. Please talk to the director or the treasurer if you have any questions about student fees or costs.

Band Booster meetings are usually held on the second Tuesday of each month. The meeting begins at 7:00pm in the band room. This is where decisions on purchases such as instruments and uniforms, and other items such as band trips are made. **You participation in these meetings and decisions is welcomed and encouraged.**

2022-2023 Band Booster Officers

President

Corrie Lanzer

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Vice president

Kathie Miranda

vicepresident@marlingtonband.org

Secretary

Betsie Libby

secretary@marlingtonband.org

Treasurer

Pam Greer

treasurer@marlingtonband.org

COMMUNICATION

The Director and Boosters will be making every effort to get you the information you need in a prompt manner so you can stay on top of all the activities associated with Marching Band.

Email

One way you can stay in 'the loop' is to make sure that the Boosters have your most current email address. Schedule updates, changes, and important messages will be communicated via email to our families on a regular basis during the band season. So check your email often. This is an immediate and inexpensive way for us to communicate to our members. If your email address changes or if we do not have your address, please contact one of the Booster officers.

Notices sent home via students

Please make it a habit to ask your student if there were any notices or forms sent home from band. Sometimes the papers fall to the bottom of the book bags and are forgotten about until it's too late.

Band Text Messages

For parents text messages send the message @mdmparents to 81010. You will receive all of the band alerts right on your phone. Standard texting fees will occur, please know your phone plan.

Internet Resources

Please visit the Band website- www.marlingtonband.org to see what the band is doing and keep posted on all events. There is a Google Calendar you can sync to your smartphone or computer to always stay up on all events. For all of those on Facebook, visit the Marlinton Instrumental Music Department page.

[@MarlingtonInstrumentalMusic](https://www.facebook.com/MarlingtonInstrumentalMusic)

Unloading Zone

When the Band returns from away games or completion/shows,

it is very important that no one parks in the driveway by the band doors or by the ticket gate for the stadium. The buses and the band trailer need this space to negotiate the turns and unload in these areas. **Please park in the parking lot.**

REGARDING THE STUDENTS

Marching Band camp

Mandatory Camp is conducted in August. The week long camp takes place prior to the start of school. The staff and students work very hard during camp. Band camp is where the students will learn and practice the drill and music for the marching band show for the year. Camp is a very important part of the season for all band members and should not be missed. The kids will learn something new each day and they will grow in leadership and teamwork skills.

Marching band practice

When school begins, band rehearsals will be Tuesdays and Wednesdays after school (2:30-5:30) and Thursday evenings (5:00-7:30). **PLEASE avoid scheduling driver's training, doctor/dentist appointments, etc... during this time.** It is a real challenge to work on precision marching with students missing.

Football Games

The band performs at all home and away varsity football games. For all performances, the students are given a RTG (Ready To Go) Time. This is to allow the students to adjust for their needs and the needs of their instruments. Examples: Percussion has extra equipment to get ready, anyone with longer hair needs to have it braided... For the home games, the band will do "pregame" which includes the National Anthem, the school fight song and the alma mater. A section of the bleachers is reserved for the marching band.

The marching band will perform in the stands during the 1st and 2nd quarters. They will then take the field for the half-time show. Parents may be needed to assist with moving the pit equipment for half time. If you are interested in helping with this, be sure to let a Booster officer know.

The band members will have the 3rd quarter off and then play again in the stands for the 4th quarter. The 3rd quarter is when the band members can get a free drink from the concession stand.

PLANNING AHEAD

Senior Night

It has been a tradition in the MHS Band for us to honor our senior students and their parents prior to the last game of the varsity football season. Students are escorted onto the field by their parents or significant other family members to be greeted and acknowledged by the principal, school superintendent and band director. Try to be there for Senior Night to see the presentations. Also, any parent who does not have a senior graduation, we would appreciate your help in concessions that evening; so that senior band parents can enjoy the night off with their student!

Band Banquet & Dance

It has been a tradition in the MHS band for us to celebrate our successful year with students, family, and faculty with a year-end Band Banquet & Dance in May. The banquet has been held in the Moulin Center, and includes all participants from the Marching Season, the dance that follows is for the high school students only.

Fundraising

Concessions

Some of you may not know but the band boosters are responsible to run concessions for most sporting events throughout the entire school year. Although this is a huge undertaking, it is also the band boosters greatest fundraising opportunity and we need to take full advantage of these opportunities.

Concession events include varsity football games, freshman football games, JV football games, boys and girls high school basketball games, wrestling matches and high school and middle school track meets. With approximately 47 different events to cover throughout the school year and nearly 278 volunteer slots to fill, we need everyone's participation to keep concessions as our top revenue producer for the band.

Students are welcomed and encouraged to volunteer when not practicing or performing.

Please Note:

When volunteering for a home high school year, you are not required to purchase a ticket for that game. A list, with the volunteers' names on it, is given to the ticket booth so that you can gain entrance to the stadium. Upon arrival, be sure your name is checked off the list.

Also, as a volunteer for any given sporting event, you are entitled to one free item from the concession menu.

Other Fundraising Opportunities

We do have periodic fundraisers during the year. These have included: Frosty's, Pepperoni Rolls, Pens, Candy, Dinners at specific Restaurants, and Car Washes. We will need everyone's help with these events. Running a Band takes many resources!

Competitions and Shows

Competition/show days can start bright and early! The schedule for each competition/show is announced by Thursday. The students will be told what time to come to the school for practice, when the trailer will be loaded, what time they will be dressing, the time the bus will depart, our performance time, and approximate return time to the school.

Competition/show days are long. Depending upon our band's performance time, it can be evening before we return. The kids usually have time to hit the concession stand at the competition, so it is a good idea to have them bring some money to be able to eat or at least pack a snack.

During the course of competition season, a band must receive at least one overall superior rating at an OMEA sanctioned competition in order to qualify for OMEA State Finals.

Please note

All students are expected to return to the school after the competition/show on the bus unless prior arrangements are made with the director. Upon arrival at the school, each student is responsible for getting their instrument, uniform and hat from the trailer and to put them away. No one is allowed to leave until this task is complete. We are one band and everyone helps. Return times are often late, and even though everyone is tired, this has to be done....so....please be patient when picking up your student.

Many hands make lighter work!

During the year, but especially during the marching season, the students need many helping hands behind the scenes to make their shows successful. As your student enters high school, this is one of the few opportunities you may have to stay involved with their activities and get to know the kids they spend a great deal of their time with through the week. The students realize very quickly that marching Band doesn't happen without a lot of parental support.

The boosters will be looking for parents to:

- Help with uniform fittings and alterations
- Help with cleaning and organizing the uniform and equipment rooms and concession stands
- Help "lost and bewildered parents and students" find their way
- Help to keep the students organized and on task to get themselves and their equipment where it needs to be.
- Help load equipment onto the trailer as needed or getting the equipment down to the field during home and away football games
- Move equipment on and off the field during competitions, shows, and events (field commander podium, props, instruments)
- Volunteer with any or all concession events (football, basketball, wrestling, and track)
- Chaperone events including parades, band camp, competitions & field trips.
- Help with planning and creative fundraising suggestions, band banquet/dance and band picnics.
- Help with any other special talents or skills you have to offer the program!

Calendar

Aug. 7th	Alliance Fireman's Parade RTG 12:30
Aug. 12th	Band Pictures
Aug. 13th	Carnation Parade RTG 9:30
Aug. 14th - 18th	Band Camp
Aug. 19th	FB @ Coventry RTG 5:30
Aug. 25th	Practice and Fair Practice TBA
Aug. 26th	FB @ Northwest RTG 5:45
Aug. 30th	Stark County Fair TBA
Sept. 2nd	FB vs Ridgewood RTG 6:15
Sept. 6th	First Day of School
Sept. 9th	FB @ Youngstown Chaney RTG 5:15
Sept. 16th	FB vs JFK Catholic RTG 6:15
Sept. 17th	Louisville Competition TBA
Sept. 23rd	FB vs Carrollton RTG 6:15
Sept. 24th	U of A Competition TBA
Sept. 30th	FB vs West Branch (Homecoming) RTG 6:00
Oct. 7th	FB @ Minerva RTG 5:30
Oct. 14th	FB vs Salem (senior Night) RTG 6:15
Oct. 15th	Avon Competition TBA
Oct. 21st	FB @ Alliance RTG 6:00
Oct 22nd	New Philly Competition TBA
Dec. 13th	Holiday Concert @ 7:00

Why Music Is Taught

Music is a science.

Music is mathematical.

Music is a foreign language.

Music is history.

Music is physical education.

Music develops insight and demands research.

Music is all these things, but most of all it is Art.

Music is taught in schools

*not because one is expected to major in music,
not because one is expected to play or sing all of your life,
not so one can relax or just to have fun,*

BUT

So one will be more human,

So one will recognize beauty,

So one will be more disciplined,

So one will be closer to an infinite beyond this world,

So one will have something to cling to,

So one will have more love, more compassion, more good,

In short - MORE LIFE!

Of what value will it be to make a prosperous living unless you know how to live?

That is why music is taught in our schools.