

WESTMINSTER HIGH SCHOOL

Marching Band Handbook

2016 - 2017



Mr. Brian Frazier – Westminster High School Instrumental Music Educator

***1225 Washington Road,
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410-751-3630

***owlband.org
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A Word From Mr. Frazier

Dear WHS Marching Band Student and Parent(s):

I would like to welcome you to the Westminster High School Marching Band! By joining the WHS Marching Band, you have joined a network of friends who share a common interest and are working together to achieve a common goal of excellence in musical performance. You will learn musical skills, discipline, leadership, and excellence – all while having lots of fun.

The WHS Marching Band is scheduled to perform at 6 USBands competitions, all home football games, local parades, and other community and school functions. The current schedule is included in this handbook; it is also available on owlband.org as well as from Mr. Frazier directly.

The staff has been working hard this summer preparing our show for this upcoming season and we hope that you will be challenged by the show while still having fun producing it. As a staff, we will strive to improve our show each and every rehearsal by pushing you to reach your full potential and pushing the band to achieve a higher level of excellence. I challenge you to do the same with yourself and others on and off the field. The WHS Marching Band is far more than music or drill on the field and that is all thanks to the attitude, energy, and enthusiasm you bring with you.

Please read this handbook from beginning to end as a family. There is a wealth of information about all aspects of the WHS Marching Band included. Many aspects of the WHS Marching Band will remain the same as or similar to the past; however, a great number of things are changing as well. I have tried to be as thorough as possible to make this activity as enjoyable as it should be. In addition, knowing the information in this handbook will make you a responsible member of the group and you will come to know the expectations of a member of the WHS Marching Band.

Personally, I am both excited and proud of this band already and looking forward to great things this season and into the future. When it is all finished in November, I hope that you will be proud to say you were a part of the 2016 WHS Marching Band. Go Owls!

Sincerely,

Brian Frazier
Marching Band Director
Westminster High School

Philosophy

Marching band exists to provide students the opportunity to understand and enjoy music through instructional activities that lead to the performance of music for outdoor events. It stresses the basic musical elements common to all sound instrumental music instructional programs and is one component of a well-balanced secondary level instrumental music program.

Although the main reason for its existence is to promote musical growth and understanding, the marching band also serves a valuable role in meeting the needs of the school and community through extracurricular activities that strengthen public relations, provide entertainment for outdoor functions, and encourage parental involvement in school activities.

Competition in the marching band setting can be an effective motivational experience for students if it is used as a means for teaching and reinforcing positive behaviors in the context of a well-balanced secondary level instrumental music program. Marching band competitions should be approached as one of the many learning opportunities available to students in the marching band, but not the primary reason for the marching band's existence.

Staff

Director – Brian Frazier
Composer/Arranger – Mark Lortz
Drill Writer – Gilles Ouellette
Brass/Drill Tech – Gary Williams
Brass/Drill Tech – Richard Auffarth
Woodwind Tech – Kristen Trumpler
Guard Arranger/Tech – Katie Greco
Guard Tech – Lexie Spertzel
Battery Tech – Casey Isanogle
Battery Tech – Cynthia Burgess
Pit Tech – Christopher Bruce
Pit Tech – Curtis Wharton

Student Leaders

Drum Majors – Jason Campanella, Aidan Wallace
High Brass Section Leader – Evie Haines
High Brass Assistant – Avery Houle
High Woodwind Section Leader – Kendra Devereux
High Woodwind Assistant – Emma Findeisen
Low Brass Section Leader – Derek Konsen
Low Woodwind Section Leader – Shyanne Gordon
Guard Section Leader – Kelsey Pintzow
Guard Assistant – Emma Fronheiser
Batter Section Leader – Jack Bez
Pit Section Leader – Noelle Neremberg

Summer Marching Band Camp Information

Marching Band Camp is our time to prepare our show so that all members will know their music and their drill (positions on the field). Normally the WHS Marching Band Camp stretches over 4 weeks during the summer. This year we will be working with just one and half weeks of rehearsal time; therefore, all students are expected to be ready to work hard and persevere through difficult times to have us adequately prepared for the fall season.

Details of each day of Marching Band Camp are listed below. Students need to bring a lunch for each day of Marching Band Camp except August 13 (IMB Picnic). During the lunch break from 12pm-1pm, students are NOT allowed to leave campus for any reason. During the dinner break from 4:30pm-6pm (August 13, 15-18), students are allowed to leave campus for dinner, but must notify a staff member prior to leaving campus and must check in with the same staff member upon return.

Marching Band Camp Activities:

- August 10 – 9am-5pm rehearsal, 2 sessions from 9am-12pm and 1pm-5pm
- August 10 – WHS IMB Restaurant Night at Greene Turtle, 5pm-10pm
- August 11 – 9am-5pm rehearsal, 2 sessions from 9am-12pm and 1pm-5pm
- August 12 – 9am-5pm rehearsal, 2 sessions from 9am-12pm and 1pm-5pm
- August 13 – 9am-9pm rehearsal, 3 sessions from 9am-12pm, 1pm-4:30pm, 6pm-9pm
- August 13 – WHS IMB Marching Band Picnic – picnic lunch provided by WHS IMB for all marching band members
- August 13 – WHS IMB Ice Cream Social – post-rehearsal ice cream for all marching band members
- August 15 – 9am-9pm rehearsal, 3 sessions from 9am-12pm, 1pm-4:30pm, 6pm-9pm
- August 15 – WHS IMB Restaurant Night at Chick-fil-a (Englar Road location), student orders and payment will be taken and food delivered to school during dinner break
- August 16 - 9am-9pm rehearsal, 3 sessions from 9am-12pm, 1pm-4:30pm, 6pm-9pm
- August 17 - 9am-9pm rehearsal, 3 sessions from 9am-12pm, 1pm-4:30pm, 6pm-9pm
- August 17 – WHS IMB Restaurant Night at Classico, student orders and payment will be taken and food delivered to school during dinner break
- August 18 - 9am-9pm rehearsal, 3 sessions from 9am-12pm, 1pm-4:30pm, 6pm-9pm
- August 18 – 7pm, ‘Kill Drill’ – can we do everything we have learned perfectly??
- August 18 – 7pm, WHS IMB Parent Social – look for information from IMB!
- August 19 – 9am-9pm rehearsal, 2 sessions from 9am-12pm, 1pm-4:30pm, Band members are to bring a light dinner to have before Preview Show. IMB will provide dinner following the Preview Show. Students may NOT leave campus during this dinner break.
- **August 19 – Preview Show** – 5:30pm get dressed in uniforms, 6:15pm march to stadium, 7pm performance in the WHS Stadium
- August 19 – 7:30pm, WHS IMB Preview Show Dinner – post-show dinner provided by WHS IMB for all marching band members

Fall Schedule

August 23	6-9pm	Full Band Rehearsal
August 25	6-9pm	Full Band Rehearsal
August 30	6:30-9pm	Guard, Pit, and Battery Percussion Only Rehearsal
August 31	2:30-5pm	Winds Only Rehearsal
September 1	6-9pm	Full Band Rehearsal
September 6	6:30-9pm	Guard, Pit, and Battery Percussion Only Rehearsal
September 7	2:30-5pm	Winds Only Rehearsal
September 8	6-9pm	Full Band Rehearsal
September 9	5:30-9:30pm	Home Football Game
September 13	6:30-9pm	Guard, Pit, and Battery Percussion Only Rehearsal
September 14	2:30-5pm	Winds Only Rehearsal
September 15	6-9pm	Full Band Rehearsal
September 16	5:30-9:30pm	Home Football Game
September 20	6:30-9pm	Guard, Pit, and Battery Percussion Only Rehearsal
September 21	2:30-5pm	Winds Only Rehearsal
September 22	TBA	Westminster Fall Fest Parade
September 24	10am-10pm	Competition (Century HS)
September 27	6:30-9pm	Guard, Pit, and Battery Percussion Only Rehearsal
September 28	2:30-5pm	Winds Only Rehearsal
September 29	6-9pm	Full Band Rehearsal
September 30	5:30-9:30pm	Home Football Game (SAT test takers dismissed after halftime)
October 1	2pm-11pm	Competition (Marine Corps Invitational) --SAT test date, please take SAT on this date if possible
October 4	6:30-9pm	Guard, Pit, and Battery Percussion Only Rehearsal
October 5	2:30-5pm	Winds Only Rehearsal
October 6	6-9pm	Full Band Rehearsal
October 7	5:30-10pm	Homecoming Football Game
October 8	9am-3pm	Competition (Urbana) before Homecoming
October 13	6-9pm	Full Band Rehearsal
October 15	9am-5pm	Westminster Home Show Competition
October 18	6-9pm	Full Band Rehearsal
October 25	6-9pm	Full Band Rehearsal
October 27	6-9pm	Full Band Rehearsal
October 29	9am-11pm	Competition (Maryland State Championships)
November 1	6-9pm	Full Band Rehearsal
November 3	6-9pm	Full Band Rehearsal
November 4	5:30-9:30pm	Home Football Game
November 5	9am-11pm	Competition (Mid-Atlantic Championships)
November 15	evening	Marching Band Banquet
November 26	TBA	Westminster Miracle on Main Street Electrical Parade

Attendance Policy

Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory unless prior arrangements have been negotiated. Exceptions may be made based on specific circumstances. If a band member misses a rehearsal, they are expected to make up any material that was covered in that rehearsal.

Notification of an absence (other than an illness) must be submitted to Mr. Frazier in writing at least one week prior to the rehearsal or performance.

The following reasons are excusable absences from band rehearsals or performances: weddings, funerals, religious observances, close family graduations, illnesses, school approved excused absences for vacation, or conflicts with a school activity that have been documented in advance and approved by Mr. Frazier.

The following reasons are not excusable absences from band rehearsals or performances: part time jobs, birthdays or birthday parties, non-school related sporting events, concerts or other entertainment events, packing or cleaning for vacations, homework, studying for tests, being tired, or having a busy week.

If you think that there may be a conflict with a scheduled rehearsal or performance, please contact Mr. Frazier as early as possible so that the matter can be resolved in the best interests of the band member and the ensemble. If transportation to a performance is a problem, please let Mr. Frazier know so that alternate transportation arrangements can be made.

Required Materials for Rehearsals (Ready Bag) (in addition to musical instrument/equipment)

- Iced Water (1/2 or 1 gal jug suggested, write your name on it)
- Meals (lunch and/or dinner)
- Snacks
- Hat for band members/bandana for color guard and battery members
- Sunscreen/bug spray
- Sunglasses
- Pencil
- Music binder
- Dot book (3x5 book of index cards)
- Lyre and Flip Folder (for winds)
- Light rain jacket
- Change of clothes in case of bad weather

What to Wear for Rehearsals

- Comfortable athletic style t-shirts and short
- Socks and athletic shoes – make sure shoes are already broken in and provide support
- ALL ATTIRE MUST COMPLY WITH CCPS DRESS CODE REGULATIONS

Performance Information

Generally, the WHS Marching Band will perform in three different types of settings – USBands competitions, home football games, and community parades. For USBands competitions, WHS will provide bus transportation to and from events. For football games and community parades, band members will need their own transportation to the event.

USBands competitions are an opportunity for the WHS Marching Band to perform in a specialized marching band event with other schools from the region and around the country. Competitions allow the WHS Marching Band to be adjudicated by highly trained judges who will provide feedback to help band members continue their musical growth.

Typical Schedule for USBands Competitions:

Report to Westminster High School with all materials
1-2 hours of rehearsal, followed by change into uniform and load equipment
Travel to show location, warm-up and performance
Watch other bands perform/purchase food and souvenirs, followed by awards ceremony
Return to Westminster High School

Football games are an opportunity to perform for the WHS community and the general public. This is an excellent opportunity for us to have a positive impact on our school and community. We perform to support our team and to entertain the audience.

Typical Schedule for Football Games:

5:30 – 6pm Change into uniform/load pit
6-6:30pm Line up and uniform check
6:30pm March to field, perform as part of pre-game activities
7pm Game time – we perform ‘pep’ tunes during the first quarter and to start the second quarter. We then move to warm-up for halftime during the second quarter. Following our halftime performance band members are given a short 10-15 minute break to use the restroom/get water/meet with friends. We then perform ‘pep’ tunes for the end of the third quarter and through the end of the game.
~9:30pm Game over

Community parades give the WHS Marching Band their greatest exposure to the Westminster community. These events are the most public activity at which we perform.

Typical Schedule for Community Parades:

Report to line-up location (usually West Middle or McDaniel College) in full uniform with all necessary equipment – NO INSTRUMENT CASES!
Warm-up at line-up location and line-up as directed by organizing group for the parade
Performance
Dismissal from disbanding location (usually East Middle or other parking lot)

What to bring to a performance (band members need these items by 8/19):

All Band Members – black show shirt, blue jeans to change into following performance

Winds and Percussion – black socks, black gloves and marching shoes (ordered through IMB-included in rookie fee), dark biker shorts/spandex to be worn under uniform

Color Guard – guard gloves/shoes/socks as prescribed with uniform, line-less undergarments, unitard/spandex as prescribed with uniform

Travel

Traveling is a privilege. It is the responsibility of band members to properly conduct themselves and represent Westminster High School in a positive manner at all times. Failure to do so may result in the loss of travel privileges, in addition to normal disciplinary consequences as described in the WHS student handbook.

EVERY trip that we take will have a separate permission slip. Permission slips must be returned at least 3 days prior

Travel Procedures

- Each student is responsible for being on time. Tardiness can have a major impact on our preparations and performance. Every member of the band has a responsibility to the ensemble to arrive on time and be ready for every performance.
- Stay in a group of at least four band members at all times. Never leave the performance site.
- All policies in the WHS student handbook apply at every event in which the band participates.
- Students may check out from an event only with their own parent/guardian following the performance. Siblings, grandparents, aunts and uncles do not apply. In accordance with district policy, riding with a friend's parents is also not permitted. The parent and student should see the director or chaperone in charge of their bus to be marked off the attendance list.
- If you cannot ride the bus due to a conflict in schedule, you may travel to the event with a parent only. Please send a note no later than the week before the event that you will ride with a parent so that we may plan accordingly.

Bus Procedures:

- Bus seating is divided by section. In general, one bus will have percussion and guard and the other will have winds.
- Treat chaperones with respect and follow their directions. With bus drivers and parent chaperones, make an extra effort to be courteous and respectful.
- No talking or laughing above the normal conversation level. Headphones must be used if listening to music.
- Leave the front seat open for chaperones.
- No bottles without caps or glass containers. Properly dispose of all trash.
- Assist with the loading and unloading of equipment. We can't go anywhere until all of our equipment is unloaded, nor go home until everything is back in the band room.

Costs

All students are required to pay dues in order to help cover the costs of the marching program. Your membership dues include staffing, drill design, music, equipment, and transportation. Although the dues do not cover all of the costs of participation, they greatly defray the costs covered by the Westminster High School Instrumental Music Boosters.

Universal Fees:

All members of the WHS Marching Band will pay a \$400.00 participation fee. This fee includes the above-mentioned aspects of the program in addition to the 'show shirt' for this season.

Rookie Fees:

All first year members of the WHS Marching Band are required to pay an additional \$100.00 fee to cover the cost of the WHS Band Jacket (\$50 – required for all trips), black marching band shoes and gloves (\$50 – required for all performances)

Fee Payment:

All band members need to pay the first installment of half of their fees (\$200) by August 16th at the latest. The second installment of \$200 is due by the first performance on September 16th. Rookie Fees (\$100) need to be turned in by September 1st. If you have any concerns, or need to set up a payment plan, please contact Mr. Frazier.

Student Accounts and Fund Raising:

All student fees, as well as a portion of fund raising efforts, are tracked through student accounts. Students can help to defray the fees for marching band by participating in fundraisers. Band member families are highly encouraged to begin using the Scrip program and Amazon Affiliate Sales as soon as possible. Information on both of these ongoing fundraising programs is available on the owlband.org website. A pizza fundraiser (beginning during Marching Band Camp) will also help to defray student fees. Any money earned is credited to the student account and statements are regularly issued.

Additional individual costs:

All Students - Under uniform garments including socks (black for winds and percussion, TBA for guard), bike shorts/spandex for winds and percussion, TBA unitard/spandex for guard. These items MUST be purchased prior to the August 19th Preview Show. The specific items listed below MUST be purchased prior to the first day of Marching Band Camp.

Brass & Woodwind Students

Lyre & flip folder for Instrument

Where to Get It

Any Music Store

Approx. Cost

\$10-\$15

Percussion Students

Snare drum sticks (Vic Firth SD1 recommended)

Any Music Store

\$10-\$15

Guard Students

4 rolls each of black and white electrical tape

Hardware Dept.

\$10-\$15

Uniform

Each student will be assigned a uniform, uniform bag, uniform number, and shako. All parts of the uniform **MUST** be stored correctly between performances. In general, uniforms are taken home following each performance for cleaning and must be returned at the next rehearsal. You are responsible for any damage done to the uniform. The full uniform consists of:

- Pants (bibbers), Jacket, and Shako
- Plume (stored separately and provided at each performance)
- Show shirt (to be provided)
- Black marching shoes and gloves (to be fitted by IMB and provided)
- Black socks (to be purchased by student)

While in uniform, there will be no eating of any foods other than water. Remember, any time we are in uniform, we are representing the band, school, and community. We should take pride in that fact. You will always stay in full uniform unless told to do otherwise by a member of the staff or drum major. Make sure that your actions anytime (but especially while in uniform) reflect positively on our band program and school.

Eligibility

Students in the marching band are required to comply with all CCPS academic eligibility, conduct eligibility, and attendance eligibility requirements.

Volunteer!!

Parents are extremely important to this organization – the incredibly high level of success that this program has achieved is built on the hard work of band parents. The best way to support the WHS Marching Band is to get involved. The Instrumental Music Boosters need your help in a variety of ways, including – volunteering at events, pit crew (helping move instruments), prop crew (helping build and/or move props), donating bottled water, donating baked goods or food items, chaperoning at events, helping with uniform alterations/sewing. Please make sure to check areas that you can help with on the commitment contract.

Questions?

Please do not hesitate to ask questions. If any information about WHS Marching Band is ever unclear, or you feel that you are ‘missing something,’ please immediately contact me at bdfrazi@carrollk12.org or call 410-751-3630. I’ll do the best work with you to provide an answer that makes sense for all involved.

WHS Marching Band Commitment Contract

Marching Band is a co-curricular activity. Participation in the marching band requires all musicians to enroll in an instrumental music class during the school day (color guard members do not need to be enrolled in a music class). All marching band members must commit to being at rehearsals and performances on time and ready to perform. Unlike a sports team, there is no way to substitute for a band member who does not attend a performance or who has missed instruction from a rehearsal.

Student Commitment:

Schedule and Attendance – I have received the schedule in the Marching Band Handbook and I make a commitment to attend all rehearsals and performances. I have read the attendance policy in the Marching Band Handbook and agree to the terms listed in that policy.

Preparation – I make a commitment to come to all rehearsals fully prepared with my instrument/equipment in good working order and all of the necessary items listed in the Marching Band Handbook.

Student Name

Student Signature

Date

Parent Commitment:

Fees – I understand and agree to pay the required fees (\$400 for all members plus additional \$100 for rookies) in order for my child to participate in the WHS Marching Band. This amount will be paid in accordance with the fee due dates listed in the Marching Band Handbook. I understand that failure to pay these fees by the due dates may result in my child’s inability to participate.

Transportation – I agree to provide transportation for my student to attend all rehearsals and performances on time and to pick-up my student from all rehearsals and performances at the ending times listed in the Marching Band Handbook.

Service – I agree to assist the WHS Marching Band and the Instrumental Music Boosters to the best of my ability and as my schedule will allow. I will make an effort to assist the IMB in the following areas (please check at least one and ideally three!):

___ Chaperoning an event

___ Volunteering at an event

___ Pit crew

___ Prop crew

___ Donate food/water/supplies

___ Uniform help

Parent Contract – I support the commitment that my son or daughter has made to the Westminster Marching Band. I understand that this includes the responsibilities on my part listed above. I will also take an active part in the guidance of my son or daughter’s time management to guarantee that this commitment is fulfilled.

Parent Name

Parent Signature

Date