

Marching Band 101: New Parent Orientation

Rehearsals

- Before school - 6:30am
 - No parent involvement
- Wednesday nights - 6-8:30pm
 - Occasional work nights/prop nights for parents during rehearsal

Football Games

- Call time 5:00pm
- Eat dinner ahead of time
- Students will have a break during 3rd quarter for concessions
- Lines get long; consider buying food for your student to have ready at the start of their break
- Band parents can sit anywhere, but often sit in the last section of bleachers closest to school

Ways for parents to help on game nights:

Look for sign-up genius during game week to sign up for volunteer spots

- **Before game:**
 - Fill water jugs
 - Push music stands to field
 - Rope off band student section of bleachers
 - Help students finalize uniform details (hair, plumes, gauntlets, etc)
- **During game:**
 - Help push pit equipment and props onto field during halftime
 - Parents helping during halftime can meet inside the gate near band equipment when there are two minutes left on the clock during 2nd quarter
 - Take props back to shed after performance
 - Take pit equipment back to band room after performance
- **After game:**
 - Empty water jugs and return to band room
 - Return music stands to band room

Competition Days

- **If Volunteering:**
 - Look for sign-up genius during competition week to sign up for volunteer spots
 - Bring a lawn chair
 - Bring cash and card—type of payment accepted varies by location
 - Entry wrist bands will be provided to volunteers if we are given enough; may have to purchase own entrance band
 - Bring a small cooler with drinks/snacks
 - Concessions are available and we feed volunteers at meal time

- Bring neck fan, cooling towels, etc.
- Consider carpooling with other parents
- Park in guest parking and meet band in student area
- Stay all day or come for just your scheduled timeframe
- **Before competition:**
 - Help serve food if students are eating before we leave
 - Help boosters prep food, supplies, etc.
 - Help load trailers and U-Hauls at school
- **During competition:**
 - Set up tents
 - Set up food service/prep for snacks and meal times
 - Unload trailers/trucks upon arrival; Load after performance or at end of day
 - Help students finalize uniform details (hair, plumes, gauntlets, etc)
 - Push pit equipment to practice areas
 - Push pit equipment and props to performance area and back to trailers after performance
- **After competition:**
 - Help unload at school
 - Help put away supplies
- **If Just Attending:**
 - Look for schedule from Mrs. Magno for performance time
 - Leave yourself enough time to park and walk to performance area
 - Bring cash and card—type of payment accepted varies by location

Uniform How-Tos

- Hair should be up under hat or pinned back if short; no hair in face
 - Keep pony tail holders and bobby pins handy
- Long black socks—not short socks, not white socks
- Usually athletic shorts and either motto shirt or show shirt underneath

Spiritwear

- Students will be given a motto shirt in their first year of band
 - Can purchase extra shirts
- Students will be given a show shirt each year
- Spiritwear store will be open 1-2 times each year for families to purchase band spiritwear and show shirts
 - Parents who volunteer at competitions usually wear show shirts, but it is not required

Fundraising

- Craft Fair
- Trivia Night

- MCCGA Guard Show
- Butterbraids
- Potential extra fundraisers for special events

Communication

- **For Parents:**
 - Email from directors
 - Email from boosters
 - Sign-Up Genius for volunteer opportunities
 - Wentzville Liberty Band Boosters Facebook page
 - Booster meetings (usually first Wednesday of the month at 7pm)
- **For Students:**
 - Classroom instruction
 - Email from directors
 - Google Chat for students/directors
 - Group texts for sections (students only)