

MARIETTA BLUE DEVIL



MARCHING BAND

2021 MEMBERSHIP PACKET

DIRECTOR LETTER TO PARENTS

I am excited to welcome you to the Marietta Blue Devil Marching Band as Director of Bands! As we enter this new chapter in the history of Marietta Bands, I have never been more thrilled for the future of our program and what this 2021 marching season will hold!

One of my main goals this spring and summer is to encourage as many of you as possible to show up to the first day of Band Camp on July 13th and 15th!! If you are a new student, or entering another year of high school and have never marched, I hope that you (both students and parents) will be involved in one of the most active organizations at Marietta High School, the Marietta Blue Devil Band!!

I'm sure that you have many questions about the Band program especially in this time of COVID-19. I want to assure you that as discussions continue as to how we reopen our school activities, I am actively working with our administration team to develop solutions that will ensure student safety but also minimize the impact to our program. I will communicate with you everything that I can with you so we are all on the same page.

For returning students, I will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that you have your best year in band yet! For new students, I will strive to make your transition to the high school Band experience as easy as possible.

We will finally get to wear our new uniforms with lots PRIDE this year!

We've included dates in the packet as they are right now. These dates are subject to change and we will update them in the event that cancellations continue. The quickest updates will come through BandApp.

Please take a few minutes to look over and review this packet as a starting point for your participation in the Marietta Blue Devil Marching Band! Make sure to sign up by May 21st!

If you have any questions, please email me at pmarimon@marietta-city.k12.ga.us



TESTIMONIALS

Heather Pacin MBA President- My daughter, Hadley, knew she wanted to join the marching band from the moment she picked up her trumpet in 6th grade. She was so excited about the opportunity to march this year while in 8th grade, and her decision to participate was solidified after just a few days of Spring Camp last April. While it was a lot of hard work, she learned so much and had an amazing first year! The band directors and high school students made her feel comfortable and part of the group right from the start. Marietta Marching Band truly is a family! I know that Hadley will have an easier transition to high school because of marching band. The time the kids spend together during summer band camp, practices, competitions, and football games is just the beginning of friendships that will last for a long time.

Kieran Holton 2020 Band Senior (Attending Georgia Tech for Engineering)- When I was about to enter high school I met a senior in the band and she convinced me to give it a shot, it turned out to be one of the best decisions I made. Over the past four years the band has produced some of the best memories, friendships, moments, and lessons I'll take with me well beyond high school. I have learned so much about hard work, commitment, respect, and so much more and the results it can yield. I'm proud to be a part of four years of continual growth in the product we produced and so many trophies, top marks, and victories. I recommend marching band to anyone for at least one year so you know you didn't miss out on the best experience high school can give you. Every competition and game was a blast, from the lows of long practices to the highs of competition and winning state, I loved marching band and would do it again in a heartbeat. Every moment won't be sunshine and rainbows but the whole experience and time will be unlike anything else and completely worth it for all the reasons I mentioned before. So if you have any inkling or desire to do it I encourage you to jump in headfirst with an open mind and become a part of a great organization that is so much more than a band, it's truly a family.

BENEFITS

Marching Band offers students rewarding opportunities for personal growth and life changing experiences. When students leave high school they don't just leave with fond memories and musical skill, rather, they leave with a skillset that sets them apart on the career path that they choose. Below is a portion of an article by Alix Kirckpatrick an HR professional with interviewstream outlining just 5 of the great benefits of a high school marching experience!

“At high schools around the country, in the first weeks of August, there is a tradition that only those who are musically inclined and willing to work hard participate in. This is Marching Band Camp season, and many high school and college marching bands begin their pre-season preparatory work in the heat of the summer, outside on the scalding turf, while other kids sit in the cool air conditioning and play video games.

As an HR professional, what can you take away from this? What might you want to know about marching band members that makes their resumes stand out and makes them more attractive candidates? According to Virtual Music Office, there are at least 10 identifiable benefits to working with kids who have high-stepped through high school and beyond. These include the following concepts:

1 | RESPECT

Band students learn to appreciate and respect hierarchy in an organization. Each instrument is part of a section with a section leader, who then reports to an Assistant Drum Major, who reports to the Drum Major, who reports to the Band Director (and so on). By learning to operate through and within a direct and dotted-line chain of command, these players start out ahead of the game.

2 | PRODUCTIVITY

Band students understand that in order to make things work at their best, they have to be productive during work time. This isn't to say that the kids don't have fun at band camp, but it certainly shows what can be accomplished in as little as a week with previously untrained marchers if everyone digs in and works hard.

3 | COLLABORATION

Working together is always better. Band students know they have to move in unison, keep time with each other and, to a lesser extent, keep each other on track as well as keeping a key level of attention on their own obligations. This sense of teamwork keeps harmony and unity among a diverse group of individuals that lends itself well to any organization's operations.

4 | PLANNING AND TIME MANAGEMENT

Marchers know they need to keep their instruments in top form to do their best. Whether this means making sure they are well-rested so they can give their all, or keeping all the necessary parts of their equipment properly prepared, they learn the benefits of good planning and strong time management skills.

5 | BEING PART OF THE BIGGER PICTURE

Band students are able to sometimes blend into the forest and sometimes just be trees. In the Band Director's mind, there may be a formation that no one student can ever see but that can really only be perceived from the big picture viewpoint. Band students may not have the perspective to understand why they need to be in a particular position to form an image on the field, but they understand their presence in the right place is essential.

“Secondary students who participated in a music group at school reported the lowest lifetime and current use of all substances (tobacco, alcohol, and illicit drugs) -VH1: Save the Music. “The Benefits of Music Education.”

U.S. Department of Education data on more than 25,000 secondary school students found that students who report consistent high levels of involvement in instrumental music over the middle and high school years show “significantly higher levels” of mathematics proficiency by grade 12. -U.S. Department of Education NELL88 Database

Music education improved average SAT scores. -Arts Education Partnership, 2011

Students at schools with excellent music programs had higher English test scores across the country than students in school with low-quality music programs; this was also true when considering mathematics. -Journal for Research in Music Education, June 2007

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2020 - THE MARIETTA MARCHING BAND PRESENTS "THE WORLD IS OUR CANVAS"

NORTH GEORGIA MARCHING CHAMPIONSHIPS

SWEPT ALL AWARDS IN OUR DIVISION!

SUPERIOR IN EVERY CATEGORY, DRUM MAJOR, PERCUSSION, GUARD, BAND OVERALL.

HIGHEST SCORE OUT OF EVERY BAND IN THE A, AA, AND EVEN THE AAA DIVISIONS!

DRUM MAJOR AND COLOR GUARDS CAME IN 2ND OVERALL, AHEAD OF GROUPS TRIPLE OUR SIZE!

LEGACY OF CHAMPIONS:

2ND PLACE IN CLASS AND DIVISION.

1ST PLACE COLORGUARD IN CLASS AND DIVISION

1ST PLACE DRUM MAJORS IN CLASS AND DIVISION

2019- MARIETTA MARCHING BAND PRESENTS "MAX"

THE BAND, DRUM MAJORS, GUARD, AND PERCUSSION EARNED STRAIGHT SUPERIOR RATINGS AT ALL THREE COMPETITIONS &

PLACED CONSISTENTLY WITHIN THE TOP THREE PLACES OF THEIR CLASS AND DIVISION.

THE COLORGUARD AND DRUM MAJORS WON THE GRAND CHAMPION AWARDS FOR THE MAGNUS DIVISION OF THE

4TH ANNUAL LION'S DEN INVITATIONAL AT ST. PIUS X HIGH SCHOOL

THE BAND WON THE GRAND CHAMPION AWARD OF THE SILVER DIVISION OF THE

OLD SOUTH MARCHING COMPETITION AT NEWNAN HIGH SCHOOL.

NEW THIS YEAR

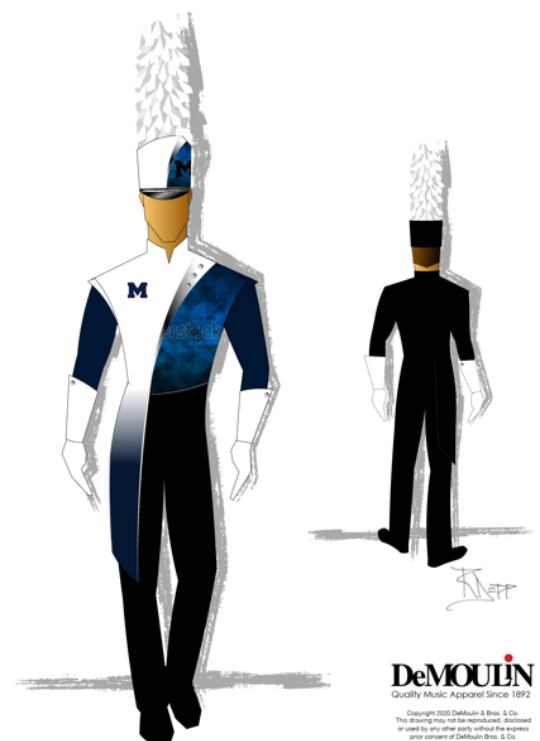
NEW UNIFORMS 2021!

DUE TO COVID-19, AND OUR 2020 SEASON NOT BEING A FULL REGULAR SEASON, WE WERE NOT ABLE TO WEAR OUR NEW UNIFORMS.

THIS YEAR, THE 2021 SEASON WILL BE THE DEBUT OF THIS UNIFORM! BE ONE OF THE FIRST TO EVER WEAR THEM AND BE A PART OF MARIETTA BAND HISTORY!

***COST OF NEW UNIFORMS PAID FOR BY MARIETTA CITY SCHOOLS.**

Our NEW uniforms feature a modern dynamic design while honoring the looks and traditions of the past. Removable & changeable sleeves gauntlets and gloves allow more comfort for hotter weather and the ability of the uniform to compliment the visual aspects of a show! DeMOULiN also makes uniforms for renowned Drum Corps and College Bands including: The University of Georgia, Louisiana State University, Clemson University, and The Cadets.



2021 MARCHING BAND DUES

RETURNING WIND (Brass and Woodwind) - \$500
RETURNING GUARD & PERCUSSION* -\$600

NEW (ROOKIE) WIND MARCHER - \$550
NEW (ROOKIE) GUARD & PERCUSSION - \$650

PLEASE FILL OUT THE NECESSARY LINKED MEMBER CONTRACT, HEALTH INFORMATION, AND
VOLUNTEER FORM ALONG WITH YOUR \$200/\$250 DEPOSIT BY MAY 21st

THE \$200/\$250* DEPOSIT MUST BE RECEIVED TO BE CONSIDERED FOR A SPOT FOR THE 2021 MARCHING SEASON.

MARCHING BAND PAYMENT SCHEDULE

The fee for participating in the Marietta High School Marching Band is \$550 & \$650 for Guard.
All band funds are paid to, and handled by, the Marietta Band Association (MBA). The MBA treasurers are volunteers. We appreciate your patience as funds are deposited and posted in a timely manner as possible.

Payment #	Due By Date	Returning Vet (Wind / Guard & Percussion)	Rookie Marcher (Wind / Guard & Percussion)
1	May 22nd	\$200 / \$250	\$200 / \$250
2	June 18th	\$100 / \$150	\$150 / \$150
3	July 16th	\$100 / \$100	\$100 / \$150
4	August 13th	\$100 / \$100	\$100 / \$100
Total		\$500 / \$600	\$550 / \$650

This fee covers the following (included but not limited to):

Instructional Staff	Contest Registration
<u>Rookies - will receive backpack</u>	Band Camp/ Mini Camp Meals
Equipment Costs/ Props (materials and build out)	Travel (buses and trucks)
Colorguard Flags and Costumes	Administrative Costs
Show Design (Music and Visual)	Medical/ First Aid Expenses

WAYS TO PAY:

1. Online- You can access our online store [HERE](#) or by going to our website www.mariettabands.com and clicking on payments.
2. Check- All checks should be made out to the Marietta Band Association or MBA. *Please make sure that your student's name is indicated on the check in the memo line.*
 - Bring a check to the band room at the end of each practice, check it off with one of the board members, and place it in the drop box by the office in the band room, the tan/gray box located by the corner office. Do not hand your funds to the directors, they will not handle them. Your cashed check will serve as your receipt. In the case you choose to pay in cash, please contact a treasurer for your receipt. You will be notified of any outstanding balance.

RULES & ASSUMPTIONS:

1. Any student not current on their payments will not be allowed to practice or march.
2. No refund of any dues will be given to any family or student for any reason including family moving, school conflicts, or a change of mind. The only exception would be for serious health issues (must be validated by a physician's note).
3. If a student decides to stop marching after committing to the marching band, ALL dues are still due and payable by the beginning of band camp. Not paying the complete dues may result in discipline issues from MHS including the possibility of not walking with your graduating class.
4. Any student whose family receives a Section 8 voucher and/or subsidized lunches for the current year are eligible for special fees for marching band. Students who receive special reduced fees are mandated to participate in all fundraising events to help offset the reduced fee. Proof of voucher must be submitted and actual fees are determined by the board on a case by case basis.
5. Students must be registered in a band class in order to participate. If a student is not able to be in a band class due to a conflict with IB, they must provide a letter to the directors from the IB counselor speaking to the conflict.
6. Students will also be responsible for purchasing the following:
 - a. Marching Shoes - (Required - Approximately \$45)
 - b. Section jackets/shirts (Optional)

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

1. A full rehearsal and performance calendar is attached.
2. All rehearsals and performances are MANDATORY.
3. Students who must miss a rehearsal must report their absence via google form on the website.
4. Absences must be reported at least 2 DAYS in advance.
5. Last-minute absences such as illness or family emergencies should be reported to Mr. Marimon within a reasonable time frame.
6. If you are absent from school, please bring Mr. Marimon the attendance note the day you return.
7. Absences from performances will not be permitted except in the most extenuating circumstances.
8. Rehearsals begin on time and will end on time. *The start/end time of rehearsals DOES NOT include travel time or setup and store equipment.*
9. Due to our new rehearsal start time, being tardy to rehearsal is not permitted for tutoring or club meetings. You must communicate with your club-sponsor your obligations to the ensemble.

ATTENDANCE CONSEQUENCES:

1. Absences will be EXCUSED or UNEXCUSED at the discretion of the directors. A general rule to follow is that if MCS will excuse it, so will we.
3. ANY UNEXCUSED ABSENCE during the week of the performance WILL result in the student in question being sidelined for the upcoming performance.
4. After August 1st - THREE unexcused absences in the course of the season will result in removal from the ensemble.
5. If you are sidelined, you must still attend IN UNIFORM.
6. Any instance of ISS or OSS will be considered UNEXCUSED. You may not attend rehearsal if you are suspended.
7. Unexcused tardies will be made up prior to or after rehearsal BEFORE the following performance.
8. Failing to adhere to the attendance policy will negatively impact receiving the .25 P.E. credit for marching this fall.

MARIETTA BAND ASSOCIATION 2021-2022 PROJECTED FUNDRAISERS

Fundraising is necessary to meet the additional costs of a quality band program. In an effort to help meet the needs of the general band fund and to assist students in payment of band fees, the following fundraisers are projected for the 2021-2022 School Year. Fundraisers go directly to support the general fund, which benefits the band as a whole. While it is realized that you and your student(s) may not be able to participate in all fundraisers, the following information is provided to assist you in planning. Additional fundraisers may be added should the need for additional funds be identified.

Fundraiser	Projected Dates
Scrips	Ongoing
Sponsorships	Ongoing
Restaurant Nights	Ongoing
Trills and Thrills	April-May 2022
Visitor Concessions Stand	Home Football/ Graduation
Winterguard Fundraiser	Winterguard Season
Additional Fundraisers	To Be Announced

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A SPONSOR FOR THE BAND OR FOR AN INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS, OR KNOW SOMEONE WHO WOULD WANT TO BE A SPONSOR, CLICK [HERE](#).

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The MBA is prepared to offer financial assistance for those families/students who have the greatest need for support. We are sensitive to each family's individually unique situation and will attempt to do all we can to help. To apply for the MBA financial assistance, the following is due on or before May 22nd for consideration for the 2021 season:

1. The online form - [CLICK HERE](#), filled out fully (incomplete applications will not be considered)
2. An essay written by the STUDENT as to why they would like to participate in the marching band, what benefits it would bring them personally, AND what they will bring to the group.
3. Families **MUST** agree to participate in **fundraising activities, volunteer at minimum of FIVE EVENTS through the season, including ONE major event** to receive MBA financial assistance. If this is not satisfied, financial assistance will not be an option for future years.

SCRIP: For parents wanting an easy way to reduce marching band fees, SCRIP is the answer. By using SCRIP, you get band fundraising credit for purchasing things you normally buy everyday. That means you'll pay less out-of-pocket for your child's band fees because you've built up credit in the SCRIP program.

You can start using SCRIP immediately, earning the Blue Devil Marching Band credits even before your child starts school at Marietta High School!

SCRIP may be the easiest, most convenient method to support the Marietta High School Band and reduce your child's participation fees. Band families earn 1% up to 12% on SCRIP purchases, and sometimes more during special promotions! A small portion goes directly to the band, and the rest is credited to your family's account.*

*In order to receive any credit through SCRIP, you must sign a waiver form.

BAND PARENT 101 THE IMPORTANCE OF YOUR SUPPORT!

The Positive Parent: One of the most important aspects of this band program is positive parent involvement and support. Below are a few guidelines to make sure you are being a positive band parent:

- While chaperoning, volunteering or in the presence of band members and other band parents, always keep comments and conversation positive!
- Make sure you remember and compliment all the work your student, and other students have done to produce a show!
- Please avoid gossip and other conversation that may be detrimental to the band or other Marietta organizations. • Try to avoid knee-jerk reactions. Be a PRO!
- Please avoid having conversations about other students with other adults, unless it is to complement them!

The Encouraging Parents: Music learning, music performance, and music appreciation are the outcomes of study, practice, and guided listening. With limited rehearsal time, it is imperative that students invest extra time in nurturing their talents and improving their skills. Some helpful tips are below:

- Please encourage a consistent practice schedule for your child at home. Remember that practice time must be framed as a benefit and not a disciplinary penalty.
- Please consider private lessons for your child. Nothing can substitute one-on-one instruction with a professional. The time spent in private lessons has huge rewards and pay-offs in the end.
- Please encourage your child to participate in all band events.

The Booster Parent: There are many ways to aid and participate in our parent support organization. Please join with other parents who realize the far-reaching potential of each child in the band and take advantage of joy created by sharing a common goal. The Marietta Band Association helps to ensure a stable and supportive band program. Your involvement makes a difference!

REHEARSAL/PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

The Blue Devil Marching Band Rehearsal and Performance Schedule is attached. Make sure you are linked to the BAND app for any changes in the schedule.

MARIETTA BAND ASSOCIATION INFORMATION

Our Booster is a non-profit organization with a 501 (C) 3 from the IRS. We operate within the rules and regulations set forth from this group. We have By-Laws, Elected Officers, Committee Chairs, and operate solely to support the efforts of the band program. We are here to make this program the best we can for the students who participate in both concert and marching band as well as guard. Volunteers are needed and appreciated!

BLUE DEVIL MARCHING BAND MEMBER CONTRACT

[MARCHING BAND FORM & CONTRACT](#): Click [HERE](#) or scan the QR code below to access and complete the marietta band form and contract. Upon completion and paying your deposit you will be a member of the 2021 Marietta Blue Devil Marching Band!

This form is quite extensive and will take approximately 20min to complete. Items include general information, student sizes, medical information (including insurance), and parent volunteering.

If you are in need of financial assistance there will be a link at the end of the google form directing you to the financial assistance application.

