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## **FORWARD**

Welcome to the Lake Mary High School Band Program! The Lake Mary High School Band is dedicated to providing each student with a positive experience in music and performance. The LMHS Band has established and maintained a tradition of excellence in all areas of performance since 1981. Each member of the LMHS Band is expected to uphold the standards that have made the organization successful, and to continue to work towards the pursuit of perfection.

This handbook has been written to provide valuable information about the Band program at Lake Mary High School. I realize you are inundated with reading material from the school at the beginning of the year, but **PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO READ ALL OF THE HANDBOOK, VETERANS INCLUDED!** After you have read the handbook, sign the acknowledgement at the end of the book, detach it, and return the form to me. All Band students will be held accountable for the information contained in this handbook, so please keep it for future reference.

I hope your membership in the Lake Mary Band will be a rewarding and productive experience. Have a great year!

Sincerely,

David Norona  
Band Director

## **PHILOSOPHY**

The Lake Mary High School Band Program exists to provide a quality music education for all students through the wind band and its variations. Focus will be placed on the musical and technical development of the individual musician. The goal of the Lake Mary High School Band Program is to produce independent musicians which have the ability to understand, participate in, and enjoy music for the enhancement of the rest of their lives.

## **CODE OF CONDUCT**

All Band students are responsible for the reading of and adherence to the SEMINOLE COUNTY CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT. Here are some straightforward rules about conduct in the Band room and when representing LMHS as a member of the Band.

1. Loud, boisterous behavior is inappropriate in the Band room. This type of behavior distracts from a positive learning environment and is never acceptable.
2. Gum, food, or drinks are not permitted in the Band room.
3. Be respectful of other people's property. If it isn't yours, don't touch it!
4. Due to the large amount of expensive equipment in the Band Room, and the number of students in the Band, it is necessary to limit access to the Band Room only to Band students. Please do not bring or send your friends into the Band Room.
5. Remember the golden rule, "Always treat others as you would want to be treated."
6. If you act as young adults, then you will be treated that way.
7. Public displays of affection are never appropriate.

If there are any questions regarding these rules, please contact the Director for further clarification.

## **CITIZENSHIP POLICY**

The Seminole County School Board believes that participation in a school related activity is a privilege and understands that these groups, such as sports and Band, represent the schools to the community. Because of this, the School Board has created a higher set of standards for these students to behave by.

If a student is suspended (in school or out), found using drugs, alcohol or tobacco products, false identification, or any other illegal activity, they are subject to suspension from Band events.

\*A complete copy of this policy can be found in the back of this handbook. It is the students/parents responsibility to familiarize themselves with this policy.

**THIS POLICY PERTAINS TO ALL BAND STUDENTS 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK!"**

## **CONSEQUENCES**

Consequences for failing to abide by the rules as specified in this handbook are as follows:

1. Verbal warning - meeting with the Band Director
2. Band room detention (failure to comply will result in official referral)
3. Referral and parent conference

## **GENERAL BAND ROOM RULES**

All members should follow these rules:

1. Read the bulletin and whiteboard regularly.
2. The instrument storage room is NOT a social area. Please use it as it was intended and move out quickly. Your help in keeping this area clean is appreciated.
3. Students may store their personal instruments in the lockers at their own risk. The Band, school or county are not responsible for their safe keeping. Students using school instruments are responsible for the instrument when off school grounds or not stored properly at school.
4. Have all necessary materials and equipment for class, rehearsal and performance.
5. Be early to class, rehearsals, and performances. To be early is to be on time; to be on time is to be late.
6. The Band, more than any other school organization, can and should be influential in creating goodwill between the school and its community. Student conduct should be at its best at ALL TIMES.

## **LAKE MARY MARCHING RAMS ENSEMBLES**

The Marching Rams are the combination of the Lake Mary Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Color Guard/Winter Guard, and Marionettes. The Marching Rams are a musical marching unit organized to provide entertainment for football games, pep rallies, and parades. They also perform for evaluation at the FBA District Marching Performance Assessment, usually held in November. It is an integral part of instrumental music education at LMHS. Membership requires TOTAL DEDICATION, MAXIMUM EFFORT and INVOLVEMENT in all aspects of marching, playing, and performance.

The Marching Rams will rehearse Tuesdays from 6:00 - 8:30pm and Thursdays from 2:45 - 5:00pm during football season. Percussion will rehearse on Wednesdays from 1:30 - 4:00pm throughout the year. (Subject to change)

**ALL STUDENTS SATISFACTORILY COMPLETING A SEMESTER OF MARCHING BAND WITH A MINIMUM GRADE OF "C", WILL RECEIVE AN EXEMPTION FOR 1/2 CREDIT OF GENERAL PHYSICAL EDUCATION (One time only).**

### CONCERT BAND (Band III Class)

The Concert Band is a class that meets (for credit) every school day. It is designed to develop the technical and musical fundamentals necessary for its students to succeed in Symphonic Band and/or Wind Ensemble. Afternoon or evening rehearsals will be minimal.

### SYMPHONIC BAND (Band V Class)

The Symphonic Band is open to students with previous experience in wind and percussion instruments. It consists of modern wind Band instrumentation and provides instruction in common-practice period and twentieth century wind literature and transcriptions. In years that a Concert Band does not exist, more emphasis will be placed on tone and skill development. The Symphonic Band is a class that meets (for credit) every school day and performs several concerts and festivals each year. Private study is highly encouraged. Afternoon or evening rehearsals will be required prior to a performance.

### WIND ENSEMBLE (Band VI Class)

The Wind Ensemble is a select group of individuals with select instrumentation. Membership is by audition or Director recommendation only. Students must have previous experience on wind and percussion instruments. This ensemble requires the highest level of performance, dedication, and interest in music on both the individual and ensemble levels. The repertoire is extensive and private study is strongly encouraged for members of this ensemble. The Wind Ensemble is a class that meets (for credit) every school day and performs several concerts and festivals each year. Afternoon or evening rehearsals will be required.

### COLOR GUARD / WINTER GUARD (Color Guard Class)

Membership in the Color Guard is by audition only on a yearly basis and requires discipline and dedication. In the Fall, members rehearse and perform as part of the Marching Band. During the second semester, the Winter Guard performs and competes as a member of the Florida Federation Color Guard Circuit. Members are enrolled in a Color Guard class (for credit) on a daily basis and will develop and improve the skills necessary to perform the choreography designed for both Marching Band and Winter Guard. Rehearsals and performances outside the school day are required.

All members participating in Field Season Color Guard are automatically members of the LMHS Winter Guard. An audition will only be held to bring in new members if there are not enough existing members to participate in the circuit (minimum of five). The Winter Guard will travel within the Florida Federation Color Guard Circuit and compete with other ensembles around the state.

At the beginning of each season the uniform will be chosen and preparations will be made to create and write the winter guard show. Each member will be responsible for fundraising and helping to build props, paint, etc. Any member not willing to participate in all areas necessary for the Winter Guard to function will not be eligible to perform.

A full performance schedule will be made available during Winter Break. All travel information will be given as soon as possible. Show scheduling is managed by the FFCC, not LMHS. Therefore, exact show information may not be available when the Winter Guard calendar is created. Additionally, show locations and times may change during the season. Every effort will be made to give students and parents scheduling information as far in advance as possible.

### MARIONETTES (Marionettes Class)

Membership in the Marionettes is by audition only on a yearly basis and requires discipline and dedication. In the Fall, members rehearse and perform as part of the Marching Band. Marionettes members will be enrolled in a Marionettes class (for credit) on a daily basis and will develop and improve the skills necessary to perform the choreography designed for both Marching Band and other Marionettes performances and competitions. Rehearsals and performances outside the school day are required.

### HONORS CREDIT (BAND V & VI Classes)

Juniors and Seniors who qualify for the Wind Ensemble and are in their 3rd and 4th year of Band will receive honors credit for participation in Band.

### SOLO & ENSEMBLE

All students are encouraged to learn and perform two or three pieces of solo literature throughout the school year. The combination of solo literature and private lessons is the most effective method for students to improve their technique and musicianship quickly. All winds and percussion students are required to participate in the FBA Solo & Ensemble MPA as part of their 3<sup>rd</sup> Nine Weeks grade. In addition, all members within the Color Guard with one or more full years of experience are required to participate in the FBA Solo & Ensemble MPA. Each student will need to begin preparations for this at the end of the football season at the latest. Students who are prepared to perform their solo in time for the Prism Concert will be able to audition to do so. In some circumstances, an outstanding student may be afforded to the opportunity to perform a solo accompanied by the Wind Ensemble.

### CHAMBER WINDS

While this may not be possible during the 2008 – 2009 school year, several positions in the Band will be required to participate in certain chamber music ensembles. For instance, the two trumpet Section Leaders, the horn Section Leader, the trombone Section Leader, and the tuba Section Leader will be combined to form the LMHS Brass Quintet. This group and others like it will exist year round and will rehearse on their own and with the Director on an intermittent basis. Ensembles like these may be asked to play individually at school and community events. Plans to establish a LMHS Woodwind Quintet, Saxophone Quartet, Tuba-Euphonium Quartet, Brass Choir, and Chamber Winds are currently underway.

## PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

All percussion players will be members of a Percussion Ensemble of some kind. Time, funding, and enthusiasm permitting, a full Indoor Percussion Ensemble (Concert or Marching) may be created as an extension of the marching Band drum line. After marching season a variety of percussion ensembles will be formed. With Director approval, percussion students may form their own ensembles and choose their own music in lieu of assignment by the Director. Prior to FBA Solo & Ensemble MPAs (District/State) or other performances, after school rehearsals may be required.

## JAZZ BAND

The Jazz Band is a select group of individuals with a select instrumentation. Membership is open to Trumpet, Saxophone, Trombone, Drum Set, Percussion, Piano, Bass & Electric Guitar players interested in performing this style of music. The ensemble will meet after school in the spring, at a time convenient to the majority of players. Members must also be part of a regularly scheduled Band class. Exceptions may be made for Piano, Bass, and Guitar players if none are available in the Band program. Performances will be scheduled as time and repertoire permit.

## **ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS / ELIGIBILITY**

Rules for eligibility in all Band functions require a GPA of 2.0. These are minimum requirements, necessary for graduation as well, and most students will exceed them with ease. However, it is important to remember that one ineligible student can lower the performance level of the Band by his/her absence.

The Director will check student grades on each progress report and report card to determine eligibility and, if necessary, help individuals establish good study habits to improve their academic performance.

## **CLASS GRADING**

Students will be graded on class participation, rehearsal and performance attendance, performance skills, and written assignments. Specific details will be provided at the beginning of each nine week or semester grading period.

## INDIVIDUAL TESTING

Each student enrolled in Band will be expected to complete some type of performance test during each quarter. These tests will include: scales, exercises, music to be performed, and sight-reading. These tests may be in class, during marching rehearsals, privately for the Director after school, or tape recorded to be listened to / viewed by the Director.

## PARTICIPATION

Students are expected to be in class each day, on time, and prepared with all necessary equipment and materials. They are expected to take care of all necessary paperwork in a timely manner. Students who fail to participate, are tardy, disruptive, or fail to adhere to band / school policies, will have their grade lowered and may be excluded from outside activities.

## MUSIC CHECK-OFF

The music check-off system is simply a means of testing the student on assigned music or technical material. Students may have more than one opportunity to check-off music. The procedure is as follows:

Practice any problem section, and then play the music for your Section Leader. The Section Leader will submit a music check-off report to the Director.

**MARCHING SHOW MUSIC MUST BE MEMORIZED!!!**

## **REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE**

Band members are expected to attend all rehearsals and performances. As a performance based course with co-curricular activities, rehearsals and performances are part of the grading process. Students must be present and on time for all functions.

## EXCUSED ABSENCES FROM REHEARSAL

Except in cases of extreme emergency or illness, students will not be excused from rehearsals. In case of illness, students should call the Band office before 12:00pm that day (407-320-9560). A written excuse from a parent is due upon your return to school or the absence will be considered unexcused. Appointments or personal problems will be reviewed by the Director on an individual basis. Request for an excused absence from rehearsal should be made at least two days in advance. You should try to schedule all appointments and meetings around your rehearsal schedule. Check your calendar. All absences affect the grade because of lost instruction/rehearsal time. Absences may result in a student not performing or being placed on alternate status.

## UNEXCUSED ABSENCE FROM REHEARSAL

Any student with an unexcused absence from a rehearsal will receive a zero for that rehearsal grade. An unexcused absence prior to a performance may remove a student from that performance, and could result in the student being placed on alternate status.

## TARDY TO REHEARSAL / PERFORMANCE

Students are expected to be on time to all rehearsals and performances. Attendance will always be taken at the beginning of rehearsal. If a student is late, he/she should report to their Section Leader and join the group as quickly as possible. It is the student's responsibility to speak with the Director during the next break or after rehearsal.

## ABSENCE FROM PERFORMANCE

Performances are a logical conclusion to the instructional / rehearsal process. Even one student being absent can alter the level of success of the performance for all involved. Excused absences from a performance must be approved by the Director at least two weeks in advance. Any absence that is not brought to the Director's attention for approval prior to the performance will be considered unexcused. Unexcused absence from a performance will result in the final grade being lowered one letter grade, loss of third quarter privileges, and the possibility that the student could be placed on alternate status or removed from any and all future performances.

**NOTE: Notification does not automatically classify an absence as excused. Individual circumstances will be considered when given adequate notice.**

## ABSENCE EXCUSES

\* Use the Event Conflict Form when requesting to be excused from a rehearsal or performance. These are available in the Band Room. An E-mail or phone call will not suffice.

\* All excused absences must be made up in a manner acceptable to the Director. It is the responsibility of the student to secure and complete these assignments in a timely manner. Absences not made up will be considered unexcused.

## **REHEARSAL AND PERFORMANCE PROCEDURES**

### PUBLIC PERFORMANCES

A schedule of all foreseeable Band events for this school year is included in the back of this handbook. Information regarding these events will be posted on the bulletin board and/or whiteboard. It is the student's responsibility to know this information and share it with their parents. To stay up to date, all band students should check the bulletin board and whiteboard on a daily basis. The Band Website - [www.marchingrams.org](http://www.marchingrams.org) – will be updated weekly.

Always report, rain or shine, to an event's designated meeting place. The telephone committee will call if plans are changed. If time permits, a notification on the website may also be used. If in doubt, phone your Section Leader or another member of Leadership.

## MARCHING RAMS

- Everyone needs a PENCIL at every rehearsal.
- At all marching functions, the Drum Majors are in charge of the Band and should receive the same respect and cooperation as the Director.
- Students are expected to be in their positions on time, with instruments, equipment, music and charts.
- There should be no unnecessary talking during rehearsals.
- Section Leaders will be in charge of music memorization and preliminary check-off for their section.
- Cell phones should be left in the Band room during rehearsals.

## FOOTBALL GAMES (HOME)

1. Arrive at school at the designated time, TBA.
2. Uniform distribution.
3. Be seated in the Band room at assigned time for attendance and further instructions.
4. Inspection will take place during uniform distribution and when forming to march into the stadium. Warm up on bus ramp. March out to stadium.
5. Drop off personal items in stands & line-up for pre-game.
6. Return back to seats to play stand cheers for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter.
7. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, stand cheers will be played until roughly 8:00 is left on the clock. When directed, put on hats and gloves and leave the stands to warm up on the track.
8. At 1:00 on the clock the band will march to the away side and kneel quietly until the away band finishes their performance. We will applaud all other bands' performances.
9. Post-Halftime, take instruments back to seats then use the far right steps only to get down for 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Break. This will prevent accidental damage to instruments
10. Report back to seats before the 2:00 mark in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter. Students who are late will not receive 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Break at the next game. Playing will begin at the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter.
11. At the conclusion of the football game we will play the Fight Song and the Alma Mater. In some situations we may play other songs.
12. When directed, line up on the track to march back to the Band Room. Any announcements will be made there.
13. Winds and Percussion members will turn in uniforms and stack chairs and stands before being dismissed. Color Guard and Marionettes will be released by their Captains or section Directors.
14. All Winds and Percussion Leadership will check in with the Head Drum Major before leaving.

REMINDERS:

- You are on performance as soon as you arrive for any function. Everyone knows who the band students are. Behave as responsible and respectful members of the Lake Mary Marching Rams at all times.
- Wear the full uniform properly at all times. Anything less than full uniform will be at the Director's discretion.
- Cell phones should be left in the Band room.
- At home games, buckets should be placed on the ground under your legs.
- Always pay attention to the Drum Major / Director while in the stands to know when and what to play.
- During the third quarter, students will usually be dismissed for a break.
- Students are to stay in the designated area. Do not go to the other side of the field.
- Students are not to go into the spectator stands.
- Wear uniform properly and be careful while eating in uniform.
- Public displays of affection are not appropriate while in uniform.
- You must be in your seat ready to play when the game clock hits zero for the 3rd Quarter.
- No food or drinks in the Band stands at any time (except water).
- Be sure your equipment is secured properly before leaving the stands on break.
- Do not walk on the seating area, use the aisles.
- When playing in the stands, everyone must watch at all times for unexpected cutoffs or directions to play softer. Playing too loudly or at inappropriate times could cause our team to be penalized.
- After the game, be sure not to leave anything in the stands.
- Hang uniforms properly after you take them off to turn in.
- Each individual is responsible for making sure that his/her instrument and uniform are put away carefully and properly before leaving the Band room.

## FOOTBALL GAMES (AWAY)

1. Arrive at school at the designated time, TBA.
2. Uniform distribution. Put on shoes and pants. Jackets may be left on their hangars and hats/gloves stored in the hat box until we are pulling up to our destination.
3. Load all instruments onto equipment truck. Students loading the truck may postpone putting the uniform on until they are finished.
4. Be seated at designated time for announcements.
5. Load buses and take attendance.
6. When the school is in direct sight, close all windows, put on full uniform, and be silent.
7. Upon arrival at venue remain silent while unloading and organizing your equipment for performance.
8. Warm up outside of stadium. When directed, form up and march into stadium.
9. Procedures during the game are the same as Home Game Procedures with the exception that we will perform our show first.
15. Upon completion of our show, kneel quietly on the track and watch the other band's show. We will applaud all other bands' performances.
10. Post game announcements will be made before lining up to march back to the busses.
11. Load instruments on equipment truck, load buses, and take attendance.
12. Give Tubas, Percussion, and Quartermasters plenty of space to load the truck.
13. Do not remove any portion of the uniform until you are on your bus. Hang it up correctly on its hangar immediately.
14. Upon return to LMHS remain on bus until directed to exit.
15. Winds and Percussion members will turn in uniforms and stack chairs and stands before being dismissed. Color Guard and Marionettes police their own equipment and will be dismissed at the discretion of their section's Director.
16. All Winds and Percussion Leadership will check in with the Head Drum Major before leaving.

## REMINDERS:

- You are on performance as soon as you arrive for any function. Everyone knows who the band students are. Behave as responsible and respectful members of the Lake Mary Marching Rams at all times.
- For away games, place all equipment to be loaded on the truck in the designated area.
- Load buses for away games quickly and in an orderly manner.
- Cell phones should be turned off and kept inside your bucket/bag.
- Upon arrival at away game, stay seated, and wait for further instructions. Quartermasters should leave the bus as soon as it is deemed safe, to unload the truck.
- When seated in visitor's stands at away games, it will be necessary to place your bucket on the seat beside you to avoid kicking under the stands. Take care not to drop items under the stands.

- For away games, be sure to place your cases in the proper area to be reloaded on the truck.
- Pay attention to chaperones / officers for roll call after away games so that we may leave in a timely manner.

## CONCERT ENSEMBLES

- Every Band member should bring instruments, music and proper equipment to every rehearsal and performance.
- In case of absence, students must ensure that all shared music and instruments are available for rehearsal.
- Everyone needs a PENCIL in every rehearsal.
- There is to be no playing during a rehearsal, indoors or outdoors, once the rehearsal begins, unless the Band is on break or the Director has indicated that it is appropriate to do so. All playing should be musical.
- There is no talking or disturbance during rehearsals. Subdued talking is permitted with the Director's permission or when the Director leaves the podium. Talking should cease when anyone steps on the podium.
- Chewing gum, eating or drinking is not permitted during rehearsals or performances. Certain conditions during a rehearsal might necessitate or allow a student to have water.
- Each student should be seated and ready to rehearse with all of their materials prepared BEFORE the time designated rehearsal start time. Students who are not fully ready by the beginning of rehearsal will be marked tardy. Tardy or previously absent students should give excuses to the officer in charge of the roll, rather than disturbing the rehearsal.
- Posture is of utmost importance. Students should avoid crossing legs or ankles and slumping while playing.
- DO NOT LEAN BACK IN YOUR CHAIR! You could fall and injure yourself, or break the feet on the chair.
- DO NOT LEAN ON MUSIC STANDS! This causes them to loosen and the tops to bend.
- PLACE MUSIC STANDS ON RACKS CORRECTLY AT THE END OF REHEARSAL. Different music stand racks hold the stands in different ways. Place stands on each rack in the manner appropriate for the individual rack.
- The whiteboard should be read daily for special announcements or instructions.

- Music folders, instruments, and equipment should be kept in their proper storage places when not in use. Music and folders should not be left on the music stand after rehearsal.
- Books and personal belongings should not be left in the rehearsal room. All trash should be thrown in a trash can. Backpacks and personal belongings not left in your locker should be along the edge of the classroom or completely beneath your chair. Loud talking, shouting, or horseplay is not allowed in the Band room.
- Band Leadership is responsible for double-checking the room for cleanliness and organization before leaving. However, if all students keep their own areas clean and organized, the Band Room will always look pleasant and professional.
- Personal phone calls are not permitted on the Band room phone during school hours or rehearsals. Phone calls to parents may be made after rehearsals and performances only.

### WINTER GUARD

- No student will be allowed to drive to or from any show under any circumstances.
- Parents wanting to take their student home after a show must provide a note in writing to the Director two weeks in advance.
- A call time and location will be given prior to a scheduled show date. You cannot be late!
- All members are required to load and unload their necessary equipment.
- Do not stand up, walk around, or move about for any reason while another unit is performing. If you must leave the spectator area, do so between unit performances.
- No student will be permitted to leave the spectator area, dressing area, or any other designated area without a Chaperone.
- Please be courteous and respectful to all other units at all times.
- Leave dressing and practice areas as you found them.
- Pay attention to a Show Host when they are directing you around the campus.
- When lining up for a performance, you must remain quiet.
- Do not litter.
- Members not only respect one another's property but also try as well to give consideration to the self-esteem of fellow members. We will encourage and support one another.

- Personal grudges, gripes, and grievances have no place in a successful organization.
- Members must wear their Guard shirt at all times when not in uniform during travel.
- All members are expected to help put equipment away once back at Lake Mary High School.

## **TRAVEL POLICIES**

Students should treat the chaperones and bus drivers courteously. Chaperones and officers are assisting the Director and students should listen to and follow their instructions.

The complete uniform should be worn properly when in public. Any deviation from this will be at the Director's discretion.

Horseplay and screaming are prohibited on the bus - usual bus rules apply.  
No tape player, CD or radio will be allowed on the bus without headphones.

Students will be expected to sign up for bus seating lists at an announced time. Students who do not sign up will be assigned to a seat. Students will not be allowed to change buses without permission of the Director. There will be roll call on each bus before departure.

All students must travel to and from performances on the bus. Any student needing or wishing to return with their parents and not on the bus must submit their request in writing at least 2 days in advance. If approved, the parent /guardian MUST check the student out with the bus chaperone before leaving. No student will be allowed to leave with anyone other than a parent/guardian.

Students are responsible for their own equipment and instruments. The quartermasters will load the equipment trucks, but students must have their instruments in the right place at the right time to be sure they are loaded.

Students will receive an itinerary for each trip. They are responsible for knowing departure and arrival times and for communicating these times with their parents.

No eating or drinking is permitted on the buses.

Any illness or injury should be reported immediately to a chaperone and/or Director.

Upon arrival at the destination, students should remain quiet and seated until instructions have been given.

Conduct of students in public (except at football games) should be subdued and courteous.

Music will be transported in music cases by the Librarians. Section Leaders are responsible for collecting music from each section and getting it to the Librarians. The Librarians will be responsible for getting the music cases on the bus and to the performance site.

All Band members are responsible for set up and strike of concert setting. If everyone does their part, things run smoothly. Chaperones will be in charge of each bus. With the help of the Band officers assigned to each bus, they will be responsible for calling roll and maintaining good conduct. No bus should be permitted to leave a stop until the roll is checked. Report that you are ready to move to the Band Director or Head Chaperone.

## OVERNIGHT TRAVEL POLICIES

A travel itinerary and procedures list will be published for each major trip. It is important that these instructions be followed so the Band can move quickly, safely and efficiently. The parent or guardian of each student will be expected to fill out the SCPS MEDICAL AND TRAVEL FORM and have it notarized. Students will not travel in the Band without this form.

Suitcases and small instruments should be placed near buses. Quartermasters and work crew will be responsible for loading the buses. Each person is limited to one suitcase. Overnight cases or personal belongings must be carried inside the bus. Suitcases and instrument cases should be labeled with identification tags (inside and out). Larger instruments should be placed near the equipment truck.

As with busses, students are expected to sign up for a room. Students not signing up for a room will be assigned to one. These assignments will not change without the authorization of the Director.

Students should be careful and safe at all times. If an accident, injury or illness does occur, the chaperone in charge should be notified at once. The chaperone will then notify the Director.

Students are not to leave their rooms after curfew. This is for your safety.

Students may not visit rooms occupied by the opposite sex without a chaperone.

While staying in a hotel/motel, students should be considerate of other occupants, especially at night. Rooms should be left neat and hotel/motel property should not be damaged. Telephone calls made by individuals may not be charged to the room. Long distance calls should be made from the lobby.

It should be noted that proper behavior is expected when on a school sponsored trip. The Seminole County Code of Student Conduct will be observed at all times. Undignified conduct or reckless behavior may result in disciplinary action, suspension from school, and/or dismissal from the Band.

**POSSESSION OR USE OF ALCOHOL OR NARCOTICS IS FORBIDDEN.** These matters will be turned over to legal authorities.

## **UNIFORMS**

### **MARCHING UNIFORMS**

Marching uniforms are provided by the LMHS Band Program and are kept at school to be distributed prior to a performance. A uniform fee is included in your Marching Band fees and will cover cleaning and minor repairs. Students are responsible for any loss or damage due to negligence while the uniform is in their possession.

### **WINDS AND PERCUSSION**

Students are responsible for supplying the following:

- Black, lace up Bando shoes
- Black crew socks
- White cotton gloves
- Red Band t-shirt
- Heavy duty, clear rain poncho

No jewelry or excessive makeup is to be worn with the marching uniform (including earrings). Hair must be of natural or natural looking color at all times. Hair should be off the collar (If it is long, it must be put up under the hat - boys as well as girls.)

Inspection will be held prior to each performance. Students are expected to care for and wear their uniforms properly. Failure to pass inspection may cause the student to be removed from a performance.

The alternate uniform consists of the Band polo shirt and shorts or slacks as assigned by the Band Director. The polo shirt will be worn for all pep rallies and informal performances.

Rehearsal dress for the Band is a red shirt and any color shorts. Tennis shoes and socks are a necessity for marching. Outside temperatures (hot and cold) should be taken into consideration when selecting your rehearsal attire. **SHOES MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES!!**

### **COLOR GUARD**

Performance uniforms are property of LMHS Band Program. Uniforms must be cleaned, mended, and pressed for all activities. Uniforms should be dry cleaned after one or two performances or when soiled. At the end of Marching Season the uniform will need to be dry cleaned and returned in the bag with the cleaning receipt attached.

The uniform consists of, but is not limited to:

Black Full Body Suit  
Sequined Vest

Black Fingerless Color  
Guard Gloves

Black Color Guard Shoes  
Sequined Headband

All members will wear their hair pulled back and off their face. All hair styles will be uniformed at each performance. Concessions will be made for those students whose hair is too short to wear in certain styles. No large barrettes. Any accessory, including earrings and fingernail polish, can be worn by members as long as it is uniformed throughout the section and is worn in moderation.

### MARIONETTES

Marionettes uniform requirements will be more similar to the Color Guard uniform than the Winds and Percussion uniform requirements. The Band Director and Marionettes Director will make all decisions concerning the Marionettes Uniform.

### CONCERT BANDS

The Band will supply tuxedos for the boys (pants only for Symphonic Band) and long black skirts for the girls. The students are responsible for supplying the following:

BOYS: Bright white, winged collar, pleated tux shirt; black dress shoes (or clean, polished Bandos); black socks.

GIRLS: Bright white, winged collar, pleated tux shirt; black pantyhose; black closed toe dress shoes (flat or low heel, no platforms).

\* Hair should be of natural or natural looking color at all times for all performing ensembles. Make up and jewelry should be light and small.

### PERCUSSION

All percussion will wear black tux pants provided by the Band and will provide their own black socks, shoes and Black Banded collar pleated tux shirt.

### WINTER GUARD

The Winter Guard uniform will be chosen at the beginning of the season based on the show that will be performed.

## **BAND CAMP**

As an important part of an effective rehearsal procedure, each year it is necessary for the Marching Band to meet prior to the beginning of school. All members of the Marching Band are expected to attend Band Camp and other pre-season rehearsals scheduled by the Director. Band Camp consists of summer music rehearsals, Leadership Camp, Rookie Camp, Color Guard Camp, and an intense week prior to the beginning of school (Full Band Camp).

### **LEADERSHIP CAMP (July 30, 8:00am – 4:00pm)**

Leadership Camp is required for all Band Officers. The Director will spend time working with Marching Rams Leadership on being effective student leaders and teaching techniques to prepare Rookies for Full Band Camp. Time will also be spent preparing the facilities for those events.

This year, Leadership Camp is one day, Wednesday, July 30.  
Next year Leadership Camp will be two days (August 3 – 4, 2009, tentatively).

### **ROOKIE CAMP (July 31 – August 1, 8:00am – 4:00pm)**

Rookie Camp will be held second. Participation is required for Leadership and all students new to the Band Program. Time will be spent teaching Rookies the LMHS marching style in the morning and fundamental playing techniques in the afternoon.

This year, Rookie Camp is two days (Thursday & Friday, July 31 & August 1).  
Next year Rookie Camp will be three days (Wednesday – Friday, August 5 – 7, 2009).

### **COLOR GUARD CAMP (July 30 – August 1, 1:00pm – 8:00pm)**

Color Guard camp will be held the same week as Rookie Camp this year. Participation is required for all members of the Color Guard. Time will be spent teaching routines for the Marching Show as well as learning traditional routines, such as the Fight Song.

This year Color Guard Camp is three days (Wednesday – Friday, July 30 – August 1).  
Next year Color Guard Camp will be five days (Monday – Friday, August 3 – 7, 2009).

### **FULL BAND CAMP (August 4 – 8, 8:00am – 8:00pm)**

At Full Band Camp emphasis will be on learning the half-time show. Time is also spent working on performance fundamentals, both marching and musical. All members are expected to attend Band Camp. Students who are unable to attend should notify the Director in advance. Students who miss Band Camp may be placed on alternate status and must acquire the needed performance skills and await the opening of a show position. Alternate status does not relieve the student from his/her rehearsal participation or performance attendance obligations.

Next year, Full Band Camp will be August 10 – 14, 2009.

## **ALL – COUNTY & ALL – STATE BANDS**

Auditioning for these groups is voluntary and participation is an honor and a privilege. However, when students sign up to audition for these groups, they are expected to complete the process. Anything less will be considered unexcused.

### **ALL – COUNTY BAND**

All County Band auditions are open to all members of the Wind Ensemble and select members of the Symphonic Band. Auditions are held in the Fall, with rehearsals and performance in January. Students must first audition for and be approved by the Director before the actual All-County audition. Students should check the rehearsal schedule before auditioning to be sure they are able to make ALL rehearsals. Students intending to audition for an All-County or All-State Band should begin practicing as soon as audition material is available.

### **ALL – STATE BAND**

The ALL – STATE BANDS & ORCHESTRAS are comprised of the finest middle and high school musicians in the state of Florida. Members are selected, by auditions each September. They rehearse and perform at the Florida Music Educators Convention in Tampa in January. Participation in the All-State Band is a GREAT honor. Summer is the ideal time to begin to prepare the material. All-State audition music is excellent practice material. All students are encouraged to prepare the audition materials, even if they do not audition. Students who intend to audition must first audition for and be approved by the Director. All fees and expenses associated with All-State participation are the responsibility of the individual student. If a student is selected for participation, the Director will make all housing arrangements for the group. Parent chaperones will be needed to assist with this event.

## **SOLO & ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL**

The Solo & Ensemble Music Performance Assessment (MPA) of the Florida Bandmasters Association (FBA) is held in February of each year. The opportunity to be evaluated on solo and small group performance is a wonderful learning experience and is highly beneficial to the individual and the Band as a whole.

### **WINDS AND PERCUSSION**

Participation in this festival is required of all winds and percussion students as part of their 3<sup>rd</sup> nine weeks grade. Selection of music and ensemble partners begins in the Fall and must be completed by the end of football season.

- *You* must select music from the FBA music list.
- *You* must provide original music scores for the judge.
- *You* must provide an accompanist if the music calls for one.

- *Selecting and paying an accompanist is the student's responsibility.* If a student needs assistance in selecting one, he/she should consult with the Band Director EARLY.
- Selecting your ensemble members is a very important part of the process, since they will greatly determine the success of your performance.
- Once you sign up for an event, dropping out becomes an unexcused absence, even if the student is part of another solo or ensemble.

All students who do not study privately must play their solo(s) and/or ensemble(s) for the Director at least TWICE before the District performance. The Director will be the one to decide if a particular performance is not properly prepared for public performance.

### STUDENT SOLOISTS

In past years, outstanding senior instrumentalists have been given the opportunity to perform a solo with the Band on the final concert. If circumstances allow, this opportunity will again be provided. Since there are often more outstanding students desiring to play than there are positions to fill, the following criteria will be taken into consideration:

- Member of All-State
- Superior solo at State Solo & Ensemble
- Section Leader
- Overall contribution to the Band
- Member of All-County
- Will the solo fit the program planned by the Director

If necessary, and if time permits, an audition may be held.

### COLOR GUARD/WINTER GUARD

Participation in this festival is required of all Color Guard members with at least one full year's experience as part of their 3<sup>rd</sup> nine weeks grade. Only a Solo may be performed by the member. Music selection will be approved by the Director in the Fall and completion of routine must be completed before Winter break. Participation in this festival is also a requirement of the Winter Guard ensemble. Once signed up for an event, dropping out becomes an unexcused performance absence.

### **MUSIC / MUSIC LIBRARY**

The music library consists of arrangements, transcriptions, and original works for Concert Band, Marching Band, and Jazz Band, as well as a collection of solos and ensemble material.

The library is OFF LIMITS to all except the Librarians or someone designated by the Band Director. A student may check out music from the library by following the designated procedure. To check out music, fill out the proper form and submit to a Librarian. When returning music, students should be sure their check out form is returned to them.

## USE AND CARE OF MUSIC

- Students are responsible for the condition of the music and books issued to them.
- All writing should be done in pencil and students should refrain from excessive marks on the music.
- Markings in concert music should be erased before turning the part back in.
- Students who share folders are responsible for making sure their music is in school every day, even if they are not.
- Students will be charged for music not returned or returned in unacceptable condition.
- Students needing music copies should notify their Section Leader.

## **INSTRUMENT MAINTENANCE**

All instruments must receive regular maintenance. The basics are provided below. For more detailed information, see the Director.

### WOODWINDS

#### GENERAL

- Swab the bore after each playing session.
- Invest in a small screwdriver. Make sure all rod screws are not loose (but not too tight either)
- Take it to a trusted instrument repair shop for a full cleaning, pad checkup, and key oiling once every year.
- Wipe the keys and body clean with a soft cotton cloth after playing.

#### FLUTE

- Periodically check the position of the tuning cork.

#### SINGLE REEDS (Clarinet, Saxophone, etc.)

- Soak reeds before playing on them to avoid cracks. Use a film case with water in it rather than saliva. Water does a more thorough job of soaking the reed.
- Rinse the mouthpiece daily with warm water and avoid mouthpiece brushes.
- Always have spare reeds. Rotate them so that you have at least three broken in at a time.
- Buy a reed case and use it. It will pay for itself by allowing your reeds to last longer.

DOUBLE REEDS (Oboe, Bassoon, etc.)

- Soak reeds before playing on them to avoid cracks. Use a film case with water in it rather than saliva. Water does a more thorough job of soaking the reed.
- Always have spare reeds. Rotate them so that you have at least three broken in at a time.
- Purchase the equipment to make your own reeds. If you do not know how to make your own reeds you can use commercially made ones. However, you will need to have the equipment to work on them (shave, shorten, etc.) in order for them to produce a quality sound.

BRASS

GENERAL

- Run lukewarm water through the instrument at least once a month. Take it totally apart and give it a bath at least once a year. Never use hot water.
- Never use brass or other metal polish on brass lacquer finish (shiny gold) instruments. Use a clean cotton cloth and water to wipe instruments clean. On silver-plated instruments, use a non-abrasive silver polish such as International, Twinkle, or Wright's.
- Use tuning slide grease on all tuning slides.
- Periodically check corks on water keys to make sure that they are sealing properly.
- Occasionally vacuum your case to keep sand and dirt from scratching the instrument finish.

PISTON-VALVE INSTRUMENTS (Trumpets, Euphoniums, Sousaphones, Some Tubas)

- Use fresh valve oil as needed.
- Be sure fingers remain curved while playing so that the valve action is straight up and down. This will prevent uneven wear on the pistons.
- Check felts to make sure that they are not worn or compacted. Replace as needed. (This can be done cheaply by buying your own felt, moderately thick, and cutting donut shaped pieces that fit under the valve caps of your specific instrument).

ROTARY-VALVE INSTRUMENTS (French Horns, Some Tubas)

- Use rotary oil only.
- Learn the pattern for replacing the string.

TROMBONES

- Use trombone slide cream such as Super-Slick or Trombontine and a spray bottle of water on slide.
- If trombone has an attachment which uses a rotary trigger, see Rotary-Valve Instrument instructions above.

PERCUSSION

- Avoid damage to heads or bars by using the proper sticks or beaters for each instrument.
- Become familiar with proper techniques of changing heads, tuning and routine maintenance. Do not do so on school instruments without permission from the Director(s).
- Keep instrument clean and dry.
- Wipe fingerprints off hardware and rims after each use.

- Lower the timpani pedals to the least tension after each use. When moving them, grasp them by the arms, not the rim.
- Do not place anything on the timpani. They are not tables.

**NOTE: Regular upkeep with these methods will prevent 90% of all damage. The final 10% can be prevented by making sure you are the only person using your instrument and being sure it is secure and away from any possible damage at all times. These methods can save hundreds, if not thousands of dollars in repairs.**

## **INSTRUMENT RENTAL**

Normally, the Band does not provide instruments for students; however, there are exceptions to this rule. Large instruments, unique instruments, and percussion equipment are rented on a first come, first serve basis. We do not provide percussion sticks, mallets, mouthpieces, ligatures or reeds. A separate rental form is required for each instrument and may be obtained from the Director. Rental fees cannot possibly maintain and replace instruments as they wear out. Therefore, maintenance and repair become the responsibility of the student during the rental period. Because of the exorbitant cost of percussion equipment, we require each percussionist to pay the instrument rental fee each year. Instrument rental is \$10 per month, and August - December fees are due at the beginning of the year. January - May fees are due in January. If the full year is paid in August, there will be no charge for June/July rental. The cost of instrument cleaning and repair is not cheap. Students should take good care of instruments and notify the Director immediately of any problems with the instrument.

## **PRACTICE ROOMS**

Use of the practice rooms must be approved in advance by the Director. Access is obtained through the Director. You may NOT use practice rooms during a period in which you have an academic class, so don't ask. Practice room time is at a premium after school and during lunch; you must schedule in advance.

## **LOCKERS**

Lockers are provided for storing instruments, music and accessories during school hours and for protecting valuables during rehearsals and performances. Only school locks are to be used and only designated items are to be kept in the lockers. Students are expected to follow accepted use policies and to take care in keeping the locker properly secure and clean. Failure to do so may result in the student losing their locker privileges.

***\*\*\* All lockers are county / school property and are subject to search at any time.***

## FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

The cost of operating a large, successful and active program is high. Only part of this cost is funded by the school system. The remaining portion of our budget comes from fund raising and donations. There will be a Band Fee of \$210 assessed for each Band member and a Marching Band Fee of \$195 assessed for each Color Guard and Marionette member. This fee will cover:

Band Camp	FBA fees	Instructors
Marching Uniform	Hospitality	Marching Drill & Music
Props/equipment	Transportation	

These fees will be collected Monthly, August - November and may be paid directly or earned through various fundraising projects.

Not covered:

Banquet	Awards	Booster expenses	Competitions
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Monies for banquet, awards, senior recognition, operation expenses, etc. will come from general fundraising projects which ALL students will be required to participate in. These will include, but are not limited to: Apple canvassing, Quarter day, Garage Sale (or its replacement)

\*\* Band (Winds, Percussion, Color Guard, and Marionettes) is a yearlong commitment that students and parents accept when enrolling in/auditioning for the program. Plans and budgets are made based on the members enrolled at the beginning of the year. Therefore, a student's withdrawal prior to the end of the year will not relieve them of the financial obligation to which they have agreed.

## WINTER GUARD

The expense of Winter Guard will be in addition to the Marching Rams financial obligations. The amount will be determined each year based on show guidelines, number of competitions, and uniform selection. Each member will be responsible for their share of these expenses. Some additional fundraising opportunities will be provided to help raise these funds, but much of it can be raised through the fundraisers already provided by the Marching Rams Boosters. All members and parents will be expected to help with fundraising activities to acquire the necessary funds to support the Winter Guard.

## INDOOR PERCUSSION

An Indoor Percussion unit, if formed to perform on the Florida Federation Color Guard Circuit, will be treated in the same financial manner as a Winter Guard.

## **BAND OFFICE / BAND ROOM PHONES**

Band Office phone number: 407-320-9560

Band Director Email: David\_Norona@scps.k12.fl.us

The Band office phone is not for student use. There is a phone in the Band room that students may use AFTER rehearsal or performances. It is not to be used during class, lunch, or after school without permission.

Parents, please do not call the Band office to leave a message for your child except in the case of an emergency. Generally, messages are not checked until after the final rehearsal of the day or even sometime into the next day.

## **MUSICIANSHIP TESTS (WINDS)**

The classifications below are a good estimation of the technical maturity a band student should achieve by the end of each year (3<sup>rd</sup> Class = Freshman Year, 2<sup>nd</sup> Class = Sophomore Year, etc.). In the future a modified version of these standards will become the graded academic expectations for each LMHS Band Student.

### 3RD CLASS MUSICIAN

1. All 12 major scales and arpeggios - 1 octave - all state form (memorized).
2. Chromatic scale - 2 octaves (memorized).
3. Memorization - 32 measures of an approved solo.
4. Score of 50 or higher on sight reading test.
5. Score of 70 or higher on written test.

### 2ND CLASS MUSICIAN

1. Be a 3rd class musician.
2. All 12 major scales and arpeggios - 2 octaves - all state form (memorized).
3. Natural minor scales - a,d,g,c,f,b,e, - 1 octave - all-state form (harmonic may be used) (memorized).
4. Chromatic scale - all-state form (memorized).
5. Be able to identify and write all key signatures and scales.
6. Score of 75 or higher on sight reading test.
7. Score of 80 or higher on written test.
8. Demonstrate conducting patterns in 4/4, 3/4, 2/4, 6/4, 3/8, 6/8.
9. Perform a solo at District and receive at least an "Excellent" rating.

## 1ST CLASS MUSICIAN

1. Be a 2nd class musician.
2. All major scales and arpeggios - all state form - 2 octaves (3 where possible) (memorized).
3. All natural minor scales - 2 octaves - all state form (memorized).
4. Chromatic scale - full range of the instrument (memorized).
5. Score of 100 or higher on sight reading test.
6. Score of 90 or higher on written test.
7. Conduct an Overture with the Band.
8. Write a 500 word essay on an acceptable topic related to Band and/or music (Typed).
9. Must have received a Band letter.
10. Receive a "Superior" at District and at least an Excellent at State on a grade 5 or higher solo.
11. Participate in an ensemble of at least a grade 4 and receive a "Superior" at District.
12. Audition and be selected for All -County Band.
13. Audition for All -State Band

## MASTER MUSICIAN

1. Be a 1st class musician.
2. Audition and be selected for the All -County Band.
3. Audition and be selected for the All -State Band.
4. Perform a solo with the Band.
5. Write an original composition.
6. Form and prepare an ensemble for festival.
7. Participate in an ensemble of grade 5 or higher and receive a "Superior" at District and at least an "Excellent" at State.
8. Receive a "Superior rating" for a solo performance at State.
9. Be in the top 1/4 of your section in the Wind Ensemble.
10. Conduct the Band in a concert setting.

## **MUSICIANSHIP TEST (PERCUSSION)**

*(In addition to wind requirements)*

## 3RD CLASS MUSICIAN

1. Prepare a simple mallet and timpani exercise (snare if memorization was on mallets).
2. Tune snare, bass, and timpani.
3. Explain basic care and maintenance of percussion equipment.
4. Demonstrate appropriate performance technique on all percussion instruments.
5. Demonstrate satisfactory mallet sight reading skills.

## 2ND CLASS MUSICIAN

1. Memorization of 32 measure mallet solo (snare if mallet was played for 3rd class).
2. Demonstrate satisfactory mallet and timpani sight reading skills.
3. Satisfactory performance of selected rudiments.

## 1ST CLASS MUSICIAN

1. Prepare solos on secondary instruments.
2. Receive a "C" or better on mallet and timpani sight reading.
3. Satisfactory performance of all rudiments.

## **AWARDS**

### MASTER MUSICIAN

Any student who reaches the renowned status of "Master Musician" will have their name engraved on a "Master Musician" plaque which will hang in the Band Room.

### PARTICIPATION

There are four participation awards for each eligible Band/guard/marionette member;

- 1st year: Band /Guard/ Marionette pin
- 2nd year: Chenille Letter
- 3rd year: Ram Pin
- 4th year: Medallion

The criteria for receipt of the participation awards are:

1. Attend Band Camp.
2. Maintain overall G.P.A. of 2.0.
3. Receive a Band/Color Guard /Marionette class grade no lower than a "B".
4. NO UNEXCUSED ABSENCE FROM A PERFORMANCE
5. Participation in all Festivals/competitions.
6. Good discipline record.

\*\*Students with excused absences will be given the opportunity to make up for missed performances/rehearsals within reason.

### OUTSTANDING BANDSMAN

This award may be presented by the Director or voted by the members, to the student(s) who exhibit the traits of dedication, cooperation, and self-improvement.

## OUTSTANDING MUSICIANSHIP

This award may be presented by the Director to students who not only excel in individual performance and accomplishments, but who also demonstrate outstanding Leadership, character, and contributions to the organization. Considerations:

All-State	District & State
All-County	2nd Class musician
Solo	Meet all performance and attendance requirements
Ensemble	Leadership position

## OUTSTANDING PROGRESS

This award is to recognize those individuals who, although not the most outstanding performers, have put forth exceptional effort and have made great strides in their performance skills.

## JOHN PHILIP SOUSA AWARD

Presented by the Director to a senior who has exhibited outstanding musicianship, dedication, and Leadership for four years. This award is not necessarily given every year.

## SENIOR AWARD

All Senior members who satisfactorily complete their Senior year will receive a plaque signifying their contribution and dedication to the program.

## COLOR GUARD AWARDS

The presentation of these awards is at the discretion of the Director(s), and is meant to recognize exceptional individual performance, progress, and/or dedication.

Outstanding Performers  
Outstanding Members  
Most-Improved Members  
Esprit de Corps Award  
Director's Award

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