

2017 MARCHING BAND GENERAL INFORMATION



How do I become a member of the 2017 LH Marching Band?

Individuals interested in joining the 2017 LH Marching Band must schedule “*Music 829 - Marching Band*” on their student schedule. If you have already scheduled please call the guidance office at the high school (724-437-4741 x1117) and request marching band on your schedule. Please attend the new member orientation on April 9th @ 6:00 p.m. in the high school band room.

Does the LH Band conduct a band camp?

YES!! The band holds two summer band camps. Mini Camp June 5th - 9th (6PM - 9PM) and Regular Band Camp Week 1 July 24th - July 28th. (9AM - 9PM) Band Camp Wk2 - July 31st - Aug 4th (9AM - 4PM).

Where is band camp held?

Band camp is held on campus at the high school. Student are required to stay on campus for lunch. They have the option of eating lunch in the high school cafeteria for \$1.00 per day of camp (*\$10.00 for the entire two weeks of camp*). This is a full lunch which includes drink, salad bar and main course for the day. Student may have lunch dropped off during camp however they are not permitted to leave the campus for lunch. During dinner students will be allowed to leave campus and provide dinner on their own.

Am I required to attend camp?

YES!! Band camp is mandatory. Because we do so much of the critical preparation for the season during these weeks, failure to be at any part of camp jeopardizes your chances of marching for the season.

Is Marching Band a class?

Yes, marching band is a 1st nine weeks class where you receive a letter grade for your participation. Simply register for “*Music 829 - Marching Band*” on your schedule. The course name and number can be located under “Fine Arts” in the curriculum guide. If you have already completed your schedule and did not register for marching band as one of your classes, you still have the opportunity to add it by stopping in the guidance office or calling the high school (724)-437-4741 and requesting it be added to your schedule. Since marching band meets after school this course will **NOT** count toward one of your two elective choices. In addition, you will not receive a credit for marching band however the grade will appear on your report card and an official Laurel Highlands High School transcript.

What is the difference between Marching Band & Symphonic Band?

Symphonic Band is the “concert band” class that meets during the school day. This is an elective course that counts for either 1.0 credit or .5 credit. The course number is “*Music 821 - Symphonic Band*”. Students enrolled in marching band are required to enroll in symphonic band as well. The Symphonic Band is a great experience where all the major learning on the instrument takes place. If you cannot schedule Symphonic Band please contact Mr. Santore via email at santore.mark@gmail.com. Reminder to Percussionists you are to schedule “*Music 822 - Percussion Ensemble*” and not Symphonic Band.

When does the marching band rehearse?

After band camp, the band rehearses Wednesdays 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Thursdays from 2:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the high school. This afternoon rehearsal time is scheduled to avoid conflicts with as few activities as possible. Students involved in fall sports that conflict with marching band rehearsals are asked to speak with Mr. Santore during band camp to work out the schedule for the fall. The LH Band has a great history of working well with all fall sports to share our students equally.

Are any extra rehearsals scheduled?

The only required extra rehearsals are the ones scheduled at the stadium at 4:00PM of home football games. If you are a member of the percussion section or the colorguard/majorettes, a weekly sectional rehearsal will also be scheduled.

Does the marching band take time away from my academic obligations?

Your first priority at Laurel Highlands High School is your education, and the LH Band understands and respects this priority. Therefore, the LH Band requires no more of your time than the scheduled rehearsals and performances.

We are proud of the fact that the overall grade point average of band members is significantly higher than the high school average and that a large number of band members are also enrolled in accelerated or “AP” courses.

Many members pursuing extremely demanding course loads find that their grades are actually higher because of how organized they are during marching band season. The band helps students develop a work ethic which carries over into their studies and eventually into their chosen professions.

At what events does the band perform?

The band performs for all home football games as well as away games each season. Other performances include area exhibition performances, Kennywood Fall Fantasy Parade, the LH Band Festival, the Pioneer's Day Parade in Perryopolis, Halloween Parade, Pike Day's Parade and the annual Veteran's Day Parade. Over the past fifteen years, the band has performed in several major cities and historic locations throughout the U.S. including Orlando, FL; New York City, NY; Pittsburgh, PA; Chicago, IL; Toronto, Canada; and Williamsburg, VA. The 2017-2018 performance schedule will be released in March 2017.

What style of music and shows does the band perform?

The LH Band is noted for its high energy performances, outstanding musical arrangements, and exciting visual presentations. The band basically marches "corps" style shows with music representing a wide spectrum. Over the past several years, the band has performed music from jazz and classical composers, movie blockbusters, and pop stars, as well as patriotic music and the traditional LH fight songs.

How many shows does the band perform during a season?

During the season, the band will perform their traditional pregame show at every performance as well as our halftime show.

Does it cost anything to be in the band?

Really, it does not cost very much at all to be in the band. The only items you must provide are the following: your own black marching shoes and socks, a \$75.00 marching band assessment fee*, an official Red Marching Band T-Shirt, Official Marching Band Ball Cap (*Winds & Percussion only*) and a \$25.00 instrument or equipment rental fee (if applicable). Auxiliary members will be required to purchase any necessary accessories for their uniforms.

Band members will be asked to have your uniform dry cleaned periodically during the season (when needed), as well as provide money for dinner at band camp.

**The Marching Band Assessment Fee is used to provide snacks to all band members, band jacket letters and senior year patches, food for band picnic, after game parties, band banquet dinner, and other support items for the band members. All money goes back to the students in one fashion or another. This fee is subject to change each season.*

Where can I order items I need for Marching Band?

All orders for the marching band can be placed using our Marching Band Order Form. Here you will be able to order marching shoes, gloves, t-shirts, ball caps as well as instrument rentals. This form will be distributed at Mini Camp and needs to be returned, with payment in full, to the band by the start of band camp on July 25th. You also have the option of mailing in your order to:

LH Band Parents' Assoc.
Attn: Band Camp Order Form
P.O. Box 34
Oliver, PA 15472

Where can I purchase reeds, mouthpieces, valve oil, etc.?

These items are available at any local music store. In addition, you may also order items from Fawley Music in Morgantown, WV (304)-292-3351. Please place your order with Fawley's and indicate to them you are a Laurel Highlands High School Band Member and you would like the order delivered to the high school.

What forms do I need to complete to be in Marching Band?

Please complete the attached "yellow" form at the back of the band handbook. This form is a medical form and a handbook form. These forms are required by the school district. You will receive copies of the necessary forms at mini-camp or they will be mailed to you. You can view the complete handbook at www.lhbands.org

If I need further information concerning any of the LH Bands, where can I get it?

LH Band Parents' Association Meetings are the second Thursday of every month. Anyone who has a student enrolled in band is automatically a member of this organization. The best way to stay informed and up to date is to attend these meetings. If you need any questions answered or request further information, please check our our web site www.lhbands.org Feel free to contact our office at (724) 437-4741 x2192 or the best way is to email us at santore.mark@gmail.com.

In addition, please register on our band website so we can add you to our mailing list and have electronic documentation of your medical information as well as contact information.. Simply go to the band website at www.lhbands.org. Once you are on the band's website please click the band registration link and the medical form link. Links will be active in May 2017. You will also see links for our Facebook page and Twitter account. Please check these out and become members as we will post videos and important information via these sites as well.

WE HOPE YOU DECIDE TO JOIN US AS A MEMBER OF THE 2017 "PRIDE OF LAUREL HIGHLANDS!"