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2023-2024

# ARCHER MARCHING BAND

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## INFORMATION PACKET



# MARCHING BAND

## PRIDE OF ARCHER MARCHING BAND

The Pride of Archer is a co-curricular performance organization whose purpose is to perform during football games (including half-time shows), marching band competitions, pep rallies, parades and other community activities. One of the main activities is to support the varsity football team during games. In addition, they participate in marching band competitions, scheduled during the months of September through November. In July, the band begins a schedule of practices, including two weeks at band camp, to prepare for the marching season. This organization is the most visible in the band program and offers students the chance to participate in an exciting part of Archer High School. This organization is offered to those students in the band classes and by audition (color guard). A student must be very dedicated to the marching band because of the hours it takes to make this organization superior. The marching band also offers many opportunities to develop student leadership.

- All members of the Pride of Archer must be in good academic standing with the school. A student's academics come first. A student must pass an average of five classes a semester and be on track for graduation in order to participate in the marching band.
- Students are expected to adhere to the policies of the Band and will sign a form stating their understanding of these policies.
- Do everything to the best of your ability and attend all practices and performances. You have made a commitment to the band and not attending rehearsals and performances affects not only your ability to perform to your best ability, but also the band as a whole's ability to be successful.

## BAND CAMP

Band Camp will be from July 17th-21st. Band camp is held on the campus of Archer High School. **All rehearsals at band camp are mandatory for all members.** PLEASE PLAN SUMMER VACATIONS AND DOCTOR VISITS AROUND THE DATES OF BAND CAMP. STUDENTS WHO ARE EMPLOYED SHOULD SUBMIT THESE DATES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO INSURE TIME OFF.

**Marching Band Pass-Offs** - Pass-offs are designed to insure that all players have memorized their music. All section members must play each piece of music by memory with two mistakes or less to pass it off. All musicians in the band are expected to pass-off all show music.

The pass-off procedure begins with all section leaders passing-off by memory to the directors. Once these students have passed-off, they will then begin listening to students in their sections. Deadlines for the pass-offs will be announced at band camp.

## COLOR GUARD

The Color Guard of the Pride of Archer Band is a competitive performance group whose purpose is to provide visual enhancement to the marching band programs. The color guard performs at all of the above mentioned activities. Membership is based on tryouts, which are held every spring for students in grades eight through eleven. The Color Guard brings a great deal of pride and enthusiasm to the Pride of Archer.

## SECURING YOUR POSITION

A student will officially be considered a member of the Pride of Archer only after they have made the initial deposit payment or after their family has had a financial meeting with the Accounts Treasurer. Students who do not schedule this meeting or make the deposit can be added later only into shared positions.

## MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

All families that are members of the marching band are expected to support, through their work, the activities of the band. All member families are expected to work shifts/volunteer whether at AHS home football games, or Archer Athletic Association games, and work and participate in at least one fundraising event.

## BAND POLICIES

### Attendance Policy

Absence affects performance and the success of performance-oriented activities such as band *depends* upon full participation. Each student's participation affects the group outcome, and each student plays a valuable role in this process. Attendance guidelines have been developed to support the learning process for both the student and the group. Attendance is related to both self-discipline and learning. If a student is not in rehearsal, he or she has missed that participatory portion of his or her educational experience and that experience cannot be made-up. A calendar of events is published in advance for your planning and is available on the band's website. Students and their families are requested to plan appropriately when scheduling appointments, etc. so that rehearsals and performances are not missed. The following attendance policy applies to both the band class rehearsals and the extra-curricular rehearsals of the marching band, jazz ensembles, guard, etc.

**Excused Absences-** Excused absences will only be granted for certain unforeseen conflicts. Excused absences include illness, death in the family, an important religious observance, doctor's appointments, and potentially some other circumstances. ***Personal conflicts such as jobs, homework, etc. are not excused.*** If a student wishes to receive an excused absence, the student must speak to the directors before the absence. Failure to do so will automatically result in the student's absence being unexcused. Submission of a request does not guarantee approval. In the event that a student must be absent due to an unforeseen emergency such as personal illness, **the**

**student is required to speak with the directors immediately upon their return to school** to inform him of the absence. If a student is well enough to attend class during the school day, the student is expected to attend rehearsal and will not be granted an “excused” status for missing the rehearsal without advance permission from one of the directors. Additionally, the student is required to bring a parent note to the directors on the day of his or her return to school. Failure to do so will automatically result in the student’s absence being unexcused.

**Unexcused Absences** - An unexcused absence is one that does not satisfy the requirements listed previously for excused absences. An unexcused absence from a rehearsal will result in the student not being allowed to perform in the next performance. An unexcused absence from a performance will result in the student forfeiting any awards that he or she would have been eligible for that year and may also alter his or her participation status in that ensemble. Two unexcused absences from rehearsals will similarly result in forfeiture of awards and possibly alter the student’s participation status in the ensemble. Any student who finds their participation level altered due to attendance issues or behavioral consequences will not be refunded or excused from any financial fees and responsibilities due for participation in the activities/events.

**Promptness**- The most important part of any band rehearsal occurs in the first five or ten minutes. It is during that time that, in addition to warming-up physically, the student will focus his or her mind into the group rehearsal process. Tardies follow the same guidelines and excuse procedures listed above. Two unexcused tardies equal one unexcused absence and with that comes all of the ramifications listed above.

During the school day, students are expected to be in the band room preparing for rehearsal at the beginning of the assigned class time. Precisely two minutes after class is scheduled to begin, students must then be in their chairs warming up for class. Those students not in class when the tardy bell rings and/or not in their seats warming up two minutes afterwards will be marked tardy.

**Concert Attendance** - A performance is the culmination of weeks and/or months of learning. Because concerts are the final step in this educational process, it is essential that students fully participate in all performances. Students will receive a grade for each concert. Full participation in the concert will result in the student receiving full credit. In the event that a student misses a concert, he or she has missed an educational experience that cannot be replaced or “made-up”. However, an alternate assignment is available for students who must miss a performance. This assignment is available, upon request, from the directors and is due on the day following the performance.

## **Conduct**

Students are expected to demonstrate positive and cooperative behavior when associated with the bands of Archer High School. When you are wearing an Archer High School band uniform you are representing your school. Inappropriate or offensive behavior or language will not be tolerated. We represent ourselves, each other, and the school, and we strive to represent the *best* in high standards and traditions.

## **Specific Behavior Guidelines**

- All Gwinnett County Public Schools disciplinary guidelines are in effect at all band functions.
- No use of alcohol, tobacco, or illicit drugs. Possession or use of any of these will result in disciplinary actions in accordance with school policy. This may include action by law-enforcement authorities. It may also result in expulsion from the program.
- No abuse of school facilities or equipment. This includes uniforms, instruments, music, or the physical structures. Students will be charged for any damage to the above.
- No unauthorized use of school instruments. A signed permission form must be on file for students to play school instruments.
- Absolutely no hazing, bullying, or harassment of students.
- No profanity will be tolerated.
- No disrespect of authority. This includes all student leadership, administrators, teachers, staff, band parents, and anyone else connected with the program.
- No one is permitted to leave designated areas without permission. A director or chaperone must know where you are at all times.

Students who do not abide by these guidelines may be subject to administrative referral and participation in extracurricular events may be modified or suspended. Continued behavior issues or extreme matters may result in the student being dismissed from extra-curricular events.

### **In the Band Room**

- Students must be prompt and prepared for rehearsal in a positive manner (see attendance policy).
- Many students use the band room each day. Let's keep it clean and orderly. Trash cans are provided for your use. Instruments and music folders are to be kept only in the instrument storage located in the band room.
- Inappropriate behaviors include activities such as playing percussion (or other) instruments without permission, careless treatment of room or equipment, or use of the room for reasons other than practice or music rehearsal. Common sense should take care of these issues.
- There is to be absolutely no food, drink, or gum in the band room - EVER!
- Books are not to be stored in instrument lockers. Band room lockers are to be used only for instrument and music storage.
- Vandalism, use of school equipment, or other student's property without permission is not tolerated.

### **On a Bus**

- The bus driver's rules are always correct. Never argue with the bus driver.
- Remain silent when someone is addressing the bus.
- Music cannot be heard by anyone but you - no speakers.
- Keep the bus clean - in words and in actions.
- Do not change seats or stand up while the bus is in motion.

- All students will ride the bus to the event. Students may ride home with a parent ONLY if a written note from the parent is given to the directors on the student's bus. We are responsible for you and must know your whereabouts at all times. Students that do go home with their parents must return their uniforms to school at the earliest possible time.

## UNIFORMS

### Marching Band

Each student is responsible for taking care of their own uniform while it is being worn. Lost or damaged uniform parts must be replaced at your expense. Your uniform consists of the following:

- Black Marching Shoes
- Black Socks (calf-length)
- Shorts/pants
- Band Shirt
- Black Bibber pants
- Archer Band Bag

The marching band uniform must be worn in its entirety in public at all times unless you are instructed to change by one of the band directors. You may not unzip your coat, lower your bibbers, or take off your gauntlets unless instructed. No jewelry can be seen except single stud earrings. The only bag that may be carried into the stands is the Archer Band Bag. Jackets and hoodies must be Archer school colors ONLY.

*You must wear your entire uniform to perform.* Before each performance, the student leaders will perform a dress inspection. Neatness and correctness of appearance will be assessed. This will include the jacket, black socks, and cleanliness of gloves, shoes, and instruments. Students who do not pass inspection must correct all violations - possibly including the purchase of missing or soiled items - in order to perform.

### Uniform Care

**Hanging-** It is absolutely essential that the uniforms be hung correctly to ensure that they remain in pristine condition. Please keep track of your uniform hanger as it is made to maintain the uniform's shape. **Do not use a plain hanger on your uniform.** Once you have hung your uniform correctly please return it to the uniform room. As you do so, make sure that it maintains its shape. Do not store your gauntlets in your hat box. You will receive further instruction from the uniform committee regarding storage of gauntlets.

**Cleaning-** The uniforms are made of polyester fabric. While they are washable, **no student should ever attempt to wash their own uniform jacket.** Specific fabric care instructions will be provided! Students ARE expected to keep their bibbers clean and pressed for every performance.

## **Concert Band Dress**

The appearance of a performing group has a significant impact on the audience's perception of that group. Thus, the following concert dress requirements have been established. Students are responsible for purchasing concert attire.

### **Ladies**

- Concert Black: A black dress (must meet school dress code) or black pants suit

### **Men**

- Tuxedo
- Black dress shoes and black socks
- Tuxedo shirt

# BAND PROGRAM

## PURPOSE

The Archer High School Band Program is a total music program that reflects self-discipline, maturity, pride, positive attitude and responsibility. This organization strives for high standards and ideals for school and community.

Participants in the Archer High School Band Program will develop personal responsibility, commitment and a sense of community. Each member must know they are vitally important to the program. Furthermore, as each member increases his/her musical ability and/or learns skillful routines, we will successfully entertain our audiences.

## CURRICULAR COURSE OFFERINGS AND SCHEDULING

The concert band programs at Archer High School are the centerpiece of our band program. These bands rehearse all year during school and perform concerts at least two times annually. It is in this setting that music principles and fundamentals are taught, practiced, and developed. Therefore, participation in all other aspects of the band program is contingent on participation in one of the band classes.

Any scheduling questions or concerns should be addressed directly to the band directors. The directors often have creative ways to work out scheduling problems. The band directors set instrumentation of the concert bands. The curricular courses may include Symphonic Winds, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, and Intermediate Band.

## CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The Archer Band Program offers the **Pride of Archer Marching Band** that rehearses and performs as a group after school hours and is open to all students in the band classes. Instrumental members of the marching band must be in a band class since music is often rehearsed during the school day. Color Guard is considered an extracurricular activity.

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

**The Archer Band Program** may offer extracurricular activities. Extracurricular activities have practices/rehearsals after school hours.

**Jazz Band- the Jazz** Band plays all forms of jazz music including swing, funk, rock, Latin and fusion. Its practice season begins in January of each year. Jazz Band is open to all students in the band classes and/or selection by the directors. Students not enrolled in a band class are allowed to audition for piano, electric guitar and bass guitar positions only.



**Color Guard & Winter Guard Programs-** The Color Guard of the Pride of Archer is composed of students who add visual interest to performances with the use of dance, flags and other props. The Color Guard is open to all eligible Archer students and is selected by the directors. For more information, please see the marching band section.

## **ADDITIONAL BAND ACTIVITIES**

Members of the Archer Bands are encouraged to pursue their music education both in school and outside of school many auditions are open to our students. These include auditions for the All-State Band, District Honor Band, Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony, Atlanta Youth Symphony Orchestra, and many others. Students can also participate in camps and clinics including the University of Georgia January Music Festival, the Bands of America Summer Symposium, and many more. Information on these events will be available in the band room. These events happen over the course of an entire year, so check often for information.

## **MUSICAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Individual Practice** - Practice on a regular basis is essential to the success of our band programs. Homework in band is always to practice. Remember that *practice is permanent, not perfect*. Only *perfect practice makes perfect*. Be sure that the time you spend on your own is spent wisely. Start slowly and build up speed, isolate difficult passages, and always warm-up to start your practice session.

**Private Lessons** - While participation in large and small ensembles is an integral part of musical development and promotes camaraderie and mutual effort, class instruction is, by necessity, very general. Those students who truly wish to excel musically are strongly encouraged to study privately with an instructor outside of school. In private lessons a professional player on your instrument will spend time with you individually, developing your strengths as a musician. It is no coincidence that the vast majority of musicians who earn placement in District and All-State Bands, and receive college scholarships study with great private teachers. A list of area private teachers is included at the back of this packet, on our website, and is posted in the band room.

**Instrument Upgrades** - Just as participants in any other specialized activity move up to better equipment in order to improve their performance, musicians are constantly striving to find mouthpieces, reeds, and instruments that enable them to progress towards their full potential. For many students, the first two years of high school is the time to consider investing in a better quality instrument. The beginner model that you started on in sixth grade was fine at the time, but you have undoubtedly outgrown the limitations imposed by your mass-produced student-line instrument and mouthpiece. You will never be able to perform any better than the quality of the equipment you use. Race car drivers do not drive economy cars, and top-notch musicians do not play the instrument that they rented when they started "way-back-when". The more advanced models of instruments do cost more, of course, but it is a worthwhile investment. If the cost of a professional level instrument is too much at this point, consider investing a few dollars in a better

mouthpiece and/or reed. What “came in the box” in sixth grade is simply too generic to be appropriate for you now. A list of step-up instruments and instrument accessories is included at the back of this packet and is posted in the band room.

## **THE ARCHER BAND BOOSTER ASSOCIATION, INC.**

Parents of Archer Band members are encouraged to become active members of the Archer Band Booster Association, Inc. (ABBA). This organization is recognized as a non-profit organization by the IRS whose mission is to support the work of the bands of Archer High School. Meetings of the ABBA are held throughout the school year. A schedule of the meetings can be found on the band’s website. Volunteers are always needed and welcomed. Please contact the band booster president for information on volunteering for the group.

Brian Wolfe

Band Director

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Band Office: 678-407-7747

Caroline Suggs, Co-President

Maisabeth Lopez-Hoyle, Co-President

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[Archer Band Website](#)



# FINANCIAL POLICY

Funds to support the Archer Band's budget will come from two major sources: payments from the band members and fundraisers. Gifts and funds from other sources are encouraged. Many large and small companies will do matching gifts to groups like ours. Funds are managed through the Archer Band Booster Association, Inc.

No student will be denied participation in the band program because of financial inability to make payments. A family in this situation should contact the ABBA accounts treasurer and/or president to discuss this in confidence. The accounts treasurer or president will work with the family to restructure the payment or to help to find alternative funding sources. These arrangements must be made before the first payment is due or as soon as the hardship arises. Families are encouraged to create structured payment plans as needed.

Each marching band member is requested to pay \$385 per year to finance the student activities ( Not Including Uniform) This payment includes expenses for band camp, music, show choreography, camp instructors, equipment for the field show, transportation, and other expenses related to operation of the Archer Band. This payment may be paid in four installments.

To attend band camp, students must be paid on time per the Marching Band Payment installment agreement or have made arrangements for a payment plan. A student will be considered a member of the band after they have made the initial deposit.

Students transferring into Archer High School and joining after marching band camp will pay \$385.00. This payment may be made in 4 monthly installments, with the first payment due at the time of registration. \$100 deposit, \$100 for the 2nd and 3rd payment and \$85 for the 4th and final payment.

## FUNDRAISERS

Fundraisers will be used to raise the additional funds required to completely fund the band's budget. **All parents and students in all band programs** are expected to participate in order to minimize the burden on each participant. Profits from all fundraisers are applied to the general band fund based on current interpretation of the IRS regulations and may not be applied to individual student accounts. However, DONATIONS may be accepted for individual students toward their dues, outstanding account balances or special trips.

## REFUNDS

Money may, under certain circumstances, be refunded to students who are forced to withdraw from the marching band. The amount of the refund will be based solely on the time of withdrawal of a student. Students who withdraw before June 1<sup>st</sup> will receive a refund for all of the money they have contributed. Between June 1<sup>st</sup> and the start of camp, all money will be refunded minus the \$100

deposit. ***After band camp begins, no money will be refunded.*** (All refunds are up to the discretion of the Band Director)

## **PAYMENTS**

Payments are expected on or before the established schedule dates. Reminders may be sent home to the family through the student, sent by email, or mailed directly to the parent.

## **BAND TRIP COST**

The costs of any trips the band may take are in addition to all other costs of participating in band, they are NOT covered by the \$385.00 dues. To determine the cost per student of an anticipated trip, the band directors, with advice and consent of the ABBA executive board, shall estimate the total cost of the trip. This total amount shall be divided by the number of students taking the trip to arrive at the per student cost. ABBA should provide a detailed listing of anticipated trip expenses to the students and parents in advance of the trip for approval.

Students should be in “good standing” with ABBA as related to previous fees owed in order to consider participation in a band trip. Previous fees include unpaid dues from the current and previous years. Any funds being sent in for special trips (Disney) will be applied to outstanding dues prior to being applied to the trip.

## **DISTRIBUTION OF POLICY**

In order that the parents/guardians of the students know what is expected of them and their students, the ABBA board of directors shall annually communicate this financial policy to all returning students from Archer High School and to the parents of rising ninth graders from McConnell Middle School.

## **DONATIONS & SPONSORSHIPS**

Donations and sponsorships given in a general sense to the Archer Band Booster Association, Inc. may not be attached to any specific student’s account for payment of dues, etc. Federal tax law requires these funds to be placed into the general fund for the good of the entire organization. However, students may receive donations from friends and family that can be directly applied to their dues. See the Archer Band Boosters Association, Inc. by-laws for additional information.

## **NOTICE RELATED TO ACCURACY OF INFORMATION**

The financial policy herein is intended for informational purposes. The Archer Band Booster Association, Inc. is legally bound by its Constitution and By-Laws and its official policies and procedures. It is the intent of ABBA to ensure that the policy described in this packet is accurate;

however, ABBA members should review the official documents of the organization, available from the band website or from the ABBA president.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **BAND CLASS QUESTIONS**

### **Is the High School Band just Marching Band?**

No, in fact, the marching band is only a portion of the total high school band experience. The Archer Band program is centered on the concert music program and developing creative, artistic musicians. The Symphonic Winds is the top-performing ensemble within a four-tiered band program, which also includes Symphonic Band, Advanced Band, and Concert Band. Each of these ensembles meets daily and performs 2-4 concerts each year. With the concert bands at the core of the curriculum, students also have the opportunity to participate in a variety of co-curricular and extracurricular ensembles offered through the department.

### **Can students participate in other activities and band at the same time?**

Band students are members in almost every club on campus! NHS, BETA, French, Latin, Spanish, Drama, Chorus, Newspaper, and more! Students in the marching band are also athletes in softball, basketball, track, baseball, hockey, swimming, diving, golf, rugby and soccer, and more.

### **What are some of the music opportunities outside of Archer?**

Students in the Archer Bands are given the opportunity to be members in the District Honor Band, Georgia All-State Band, Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra, Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony, Metropolitan Youth Symphony, and the Governor's Honors Program.

### **What financial responsibility do I have once my student enrolls in band class?**

The amount of money that the band classes receive from the school district each year does not begin to cover the cost of operating these classes. Therefore, in order to be able to afford to run a band program with the reputation for excellence that Archer High School has achieved, the Archer Band Booster Association, Inc. supplements funds for enrichment.

In return, we ask that each student enrolled in band class that does not participate in the marching band, pay a curriculum enrichment fee of \$50 for the year. Students who use school owned instruments for one or both semesters, will be assessed an annual cleaning fee of \$60 per instrument per year.

## **What about fundraising?**

The Archer Band program is funded, almost exclusively, through fundraising projects organized by the Archer Band Booster Association, Inc. (ABBA). Throughout the year there are many opportunities for both parents and students to raise money for the band program. These fundraisers allow all band programs to continue and keep our member dues one of the lowest in Gwinnett County.

## **MARCHING BAND QUESTIONS**

(includes Color Guard, Winds, and Percussion)

### **Is there a prerequisite for Marching Band?**

All wind and percussion students must be enrolled and be members in good standing in a performing ensemble class to be eligible to be in the Marching Band.

### **What forms do I need to complete for my student to march?**

The forms you need for your students are provided in a separate packet. These are the only forms that you need at this time. They must be completed and turned in to the ABBA secretary or band directors in order for your student to participate in marching band. The forms are also available on our website under "Documents".

### **When are all of the rehearsals for the marching band?**

The calendar for the marching season is included in this packet, but may be updated on the band's website. Please remember that homework, work schedules, etc. are not excused and conflicts are to be avoided. It is critical for your student to attend all rehearsals and events. After school begins, rehearsals are after school on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, with football games on Friday nights. There are also weekend events that have required attendance. (e.g. competitions, Saturday rehearsals, etc.)

### **What is Band Camp?**

Band camp is the culmination of the creative process for the marching band show. Marching band camp is held on the campus of Archer High School. Students will learn how to march, play while marching, play in the outdoor environment, and the importance of team membership to create a musical experience. Students will receive instruction from outside staff members in marching and playing in both individual and ensemble settings. Many bonds are formed in the marching band camp. Aside from marching and playing, ideals of trust, responsibility, teamwork, goal setting and achievement, and character are all components of the camp experience.

## **Is Band Camp mandatory if I plan on being in the marching band?**

Unless previously discussed with directors, yes, the marching band camp is mandatory. We will cover the equivalent of nearly six weeks of regular rehearsal hours in 1 week of camp. The process of learning a marching drill is dependent on the “dots” in the drill being filled. Without the charted marcher in attendance at any given time, it becomes a hardship to those around him/her to successfully march their drill. Likewise, promptness to all rehearsals is required. When the rehearsal time is posted, please plan to arrive 15-20 minutes prior to be ready to begin at the given time. We also ask that unless already cleared in writing that all doctor appointments, unless an emergency, not be scheduled during band camp. Attendance and promptness will be documented at each rehearsal per band policies. Leadership members will notify the directors of tardiness and/or absence.

## **Will meals be provided during Band Camp?**

Generally speaking, No; you will be told of any meals provided at camp and will be allowed to purchase ahead of time.

## **What should I wear to Band Camp?**

T-shirts, shorts, and tennis shoes are the suggested attire for camp. Please remember that attire must be school appropriate and school dress code rules are in effect. Bare midriffs, cut-off T-shirts, bathing suit tops and T-shirts containing suggestive material or advertising/advocating drugs or alcohol will not be allowed. You will be asked to return home to change if your clothing violates these rules. Your feet are very crucial to your success as a marching member; therefore please wear athletic shoes that will be comfortable and allow you flexibility to move easily. Flip-flops, swimming shoes, and sandals are not allowed for any marching rehearsal including band camp. Students must wear shoes at all times while at camp. Stepping on a sharp object could potentially take you out of the show for the season. Please bring sunscreen, baseball caps, sunglasses and lots of water to drink. You will spend approximately four hours per day, minimum, in the sun. Be prepared and take care of yourself during these hours.

## **Will my student be supervised by adults other than the staff during camp?**

Parents are on hand during all rehearsals and meals to assist your student in all facets of the day.

## **What should my child eat during Band Camp?**

Please see that your child eats a good breakfast each morning (preferably no dairy). They will start the day running and will use lots of physical energy during the morning rehearsal block. Many students who typically do not eat breakfast find this a difficult three hours and can become ill due to the lack of nutrition. We strongly encourage your student to eat all meals during camp and to avoid caffeine to help prevent dehydration.

## **What do I need to bring to camp each day?**

You need to bring your well-maintained instrument. Please have the instrument in good playing condition for band camp. You will be spending a lot of time playing and poor conditions will not aid in your progress during the week. Please have valve oil and extra reeds, as well. If you will be using a school-owned instrument (percussion, sousaphone, marching baritone, etc.) you will be issued an instrument. A form will be sent home with you for your parent's signature outlining the responsibilities of using a school-owned instrument.

You will be issued a coordinate sheet which will have your individual drill. It is required that you bring your coordinate sheet to every rehearsal and have it in a pocket or around your neck for quick reference.

**Please plan to bring a water bottle full of ice water at the beginning of each rehearsal.** Fill it up before you come to school! Everyone is expected to bring his or her own water. Do not plan on sharing! Water and sports drinks are recommended. Caffeine should be avoided when participating in outdoor activities. PRE-HYDRATION is a must! Remember that eight glasses of water a day is for "normal" exertion. Students should increase water intake three days prior to band camp and should replace fluids every night during camp.

Your name should be clearly marked on your water bottle, and EVERYTHING else that you bring to camp. Every year, we lose DOZENS of bottles, shirts, shorts, etc. because they are not clearly labeled.

## **What are Marching Fees and what do they cover?**

Marching band is classified as a co-curricular subject and as such is not directly funded by Gwinnett County Public Schools. Therefore, **fundraising and marching fees become the financial support for the marching band.** Marching fees cover the cost of arrangement and writing of the music, original drill writing, 150 hours of individual and group instruction during band camp, band camp t-shirt, medical supplies, specialized instruction for color guard and often times a choreographer brought in to help with movement of the band, over 85 hours of instruction after band camp, mini-camp instruction, marching competition fees, travel to competitions, cost of prop construction and movement to locations, water at football games and at competitions, maintenance and repair of marching band school-owned instruments and equipment, purchase of new uniforms and color guard performance uniforms, etc.

## **How much are Marching Fees?**

Marching fees total **\$385** for the season. **A deposit fee of \$100 is due at registration.** Our show drill is written based on the number of students that submit their commitment fees and these fees are non-refundable after camp begins.



### **What other expenses will I incur in marching band?**

Each student will need to pay a rental fee for bibber pants, marching shoes, and purchase an Archer Band bag which is purchased through the Archer Band Booster Association. Students must purchase a red or white Under Armor type shirt on their own (see Uniform Section). In addition, there will be expenses for meals, travel, etc.

Color guard members will need to purchase practice shoes, performance shoes, bags, gloves, practice shirts, etc. Information on the additional expenses for Color Guard will be provided to each student during the audition process.

### **Do I need a physical exam to do marching band?**

Yes! Please go to [Rank One Sport](https://bit.ly/3DJSdzG) (<https://bit.ly/3DJSdzG>) to complete your student's file.

# MARCHING BAND SCHEDULE – 2023

Opponent	Location	Date
Peachtree Ridge Lions	Away	August 10
North Forsyth Raiders	West Forsyth	August 17 (4:30)
North Gwinnett Bulldogs	Away	August 25
Mill Creek Hawks	Away	September 1
Norcross Blue Devils	Home	September 8
Shiloh Generals	Away	September 15
Bye	-	September 22
Brookwood Broncos	Home	September 29
Bye	-	October 6
Parkview Panthers	Away	October 13
South Gwinnett Comets	Away	October 20
Grayson Rams	Home	October 27
Newton County Rams	Home	November 3 (Senior Night)

# BAND CAMP

**Parent Meeting:** Thursday, July 6th at 7:00pm (Zoom Band Camp Informational Meeting. Link will be sent closer to the meeting)

**Donations drop off:** Tuesday, July 11th 10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
This will also be the time to turn in final documents, payments and ask any final questions.

**Archer Band Camp:** July 17th-21st 10:00am to 8:30pm  
Marching band students begin preparations for fall. PLEASE CLEAR YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE DATES.

## NORMAL SCHOOL SCHEDULE

(Please note that these times/dates are subject to change.)

**Mondays (5:30 - 8:00 pm):** After-school Marching Band practice

**Tuesdays (5:30 - 8:00pm):** After-school Marching Band practice

**Thursdays (2:30 - 4:30pm):** After-school Marching Band practice

**Fridays (Aug. - Nov.):** Football Games

**Saturdays:** Marching Band Competitions - September or October. Dates will be provided closer to Competition and Exhibition

**Student Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Name** \_\_\_\_\_

You will be held to a higher standard of behavior, performance, and work ethic. You must be willing to make that sacrifice so that others around you may succeed. Serving in this capacity will not only provide others with a better experience, but will also provide you with a tremendous growth opportunity that will serve you for years to come.

**Student Signature / Date** \_\_\_\_\_

### To Parent / Guardian:

Your student is joining the Archer Band Program. By signing below, you are stating that you have read the Band Hand Book information and agree to follow all the rules and regulations stated.

**Parent Signature / Date** \_\_\_\_\_