



MAY RIVER HIGH SCHOOL BAND

PRE-SEASON GUIDE

FOR RETURNING STUDENTS

Thank you for returning for another season of band! We have had an incredible year in 2024-2025 and we are so proud of every student that contributed to the band winning the Outstanding Performance Award, as well as all the great memories we have had together! We are looking forward to continuing this level of excellence at MRHS Band. Next year we are offering a new choice in bands at MRHS. Please read about the differences between the fall music programs and make the selection that best suits your child and family. Your child will need to be enrolled in the designated class for the band they are choosing at MRHS.

Marching Band	This is the premier music program at May River High School. Our Marching Band students will have the opportunity to enroll in Symphonic Band in the spring, which is our advanced band. Students enrolled in Marching Band and Symphonic Band are eligible for leadership positions, theme park trips, and earning their varsity letter for band.
Concert Band	This is for students that would like to be a part of a music program ONLY during their scheduled class time at MRHS. The concert band will be learning and performing pieces tailored towards beginner musicians. The concert band students will perform at the Christmas concert (with an after school rehearsal in December). Note: Enrolling in Concert Band in the fall will lead to Concert Band II in the spring semester. Students enrolled in Concert Band are not eligible for leadership positions, theme park trips or varsity letters.

GRADING POLICY: ALL rehearsals and performances are mandatory. There is a 3% grade reduction for unexcused rehearsals and a 10% reduction in grade for all unexcused performances. There is a tentative schedule attached to this form.

Band Students are expected to abide by the MRHS and BCSD Student Code of Conduct:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1eMPL6vfBxz15j6sRiPqakSoOo9D_cQVMRpzzd7t8ztk/edit?usp=sharing

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time:

deborah.hamner@beaufort.k12.sc.us or on my cell phone at 843-271-4686

Sincerely,

Deborah Hamner

MRHS Director of Bands



MRHS BAND INTEREST FORM

The marching drill and music will be written over the summer and it is being created specifically for our band and the exact instrumentation and number of students. It is really important that we know if your child will be joining Marching Band again. By filling out this form, you are making a commitment to the band that your child will be there for band camp and the remainder of the marching season (if they are enrolling in marching band class).

Please fill out the following form acknowledging that you have received this guide and have read through the important information on these topics:

- Marching Band vs. Concert Band choice
- Grading Policy
- MRHS Code of Conduct
- Band Fees
- Sponsorship
- Tentative Schedule (dates subject to change, updates will be posted on Band App)
- Band App

Student Name	
Band Choice (Choose one)	☐ Marching Band ☐ Concert Band
Parent Name	
Parent Phone Number	
Parent Email	
Student Signature	
Parent Signature	

Students, please turn this form into Ms. Hamner before the end of school. Thank you!



These are the forecasted 2025 Marching Band Fees.
All fees will be due at Band Registration Day (Aug 16, 2025) except deposit.

- Band Fee \$300
- Sibling Band Fee \$150 (for students with a sibling in marching band)
- Marching Shoes \$60
- Instrument Fee \$90 (for all percussionists and any student renting a school owned instrument)

Want to have your Band Fee covered?

Obtain Band Sponsorships in the amount of \$1000 total and your Band Fee will be \$0. This can be any combination of the band sponsors, for example (1) \$1000 sponsorship, (2) \$500 sponsorships, or (4) \$250 sponsorships. The Sponsorship Form is included in this guide. We are starting our fundraising NOW for next season, so please reach out to local businesses and talk to them about our sponsorship program.

SPONSORSHIP CONTEST

We will be awarding a \$50 summer fun gift card bundle
to the FIRST student to obtain a \$1000 band sponsor
(and have the check turned in) BEFORE the first day of band camp!

What does my \$300 Band Fee pay for?

Marching Band is similar to the top athletic teams at MRHS with a similar participation fee.

Here are some of the things this fee is used for:

- Uniforms and uniform maintenance (cleaning and repair)
- Travel expenses (buses not covered by the district)
- Competition registration fees
- Marching Show Drill and Music (written custom for our band)
- Marching Show Props
- Pre-game meals for band members before football games and some band events
- Stocked first aid kit available to band students
- Band celebrations (End of marching season celebration, End of year Band Banquet)
- Awards

** Note: Financial Hardship should be discussed with Ms. Hamner.

The band program is available to all students and special allowances are made for those in need.



MRHS BAND SCHEDULE

2025 BAND CAMP SCHEDULE

Dates	Times	Event
July 15, 16, 17	4-6:30pm	Leadership Meetings (Band Leadership ONLY)
July 22, 23, 24	4-6:30pm	Introduction to Marching (Leadership & New Marchers ONLY)
July 28, 29	8:30-4pm	Band Camp
July 30, 31, Aug 1	12-7pm	Band Camp
Aug 2 SATURDAY	8:30-4	Band Camp
Aug 4, 5	4-7pm	Band Camp

REMINDER: What does your student need to be prepared for Band Camp?

Athletic Clothing: Shorts & T-Shirts (No long pants, No sweatshirts/hoodies)

Hats (full-brim or baseball hats to protect from the sun)

Insulated water bottles (we recommend the larger water jugs for band camp)

REMINDER: What else will your student need during the season?

Black Shorts for specified performances (No mesh/basketball shorts)

Long Black Socks are required for all performances/competitions

2025 BAND WEEKLY PRACTICE SCHEDULE (AUGUST 7 - OCTOBER 31)

Monday	4-7pm	Band Practice
Tuesday	4-6pm	Band Practice
Thursday	4-7pm	Band Practice

Note: Practices may continue after marching season. After school practices for Symphonic Band will be announced by Ms. Hamner.



MRHS BAND SCHEDULE

2025 BAND EVENT SCHEDULE

Aug 16 Saturday	Picture & Fundraising Day (Students) Band Registration Drop-In (Parents)
Aug 29 Friday	Football Game - MRHS vs West Ashley
Sept 6 or 13 (TBD) Saturday	Beaufort County Marching Exhibition
Sept 20 Saturday	Mustang Competition in Graniteville, SC
Sept 26 Friday	Football Game - Homecoming - MRHS vs Georgetown
Oct 3 Friday	Football Game - MRHS vs Colleton County
Oct 10 Friday	Football Game - MRHS vs Bishop England
Oct 11 Saturday	Silver Spirit Competition in Jackson, SC
Oct 17 Friday	Football Game - MRHS vs Hilton Head
Oct 18 Saturday	Championship Competition at Blythewood High School
Oct 30 (TBD) Thursday	Haunted House Fundraiser
Oct 31 Friday	Football Game - MRHS vs. Bluffton - with middle school students
Nov 10 Monday	Parade Practice after school
Nov 11 Tuesday	Bluffton Veterans Day Parade
Nov 20 (TBD) Thursday	All County Auditions at May River High School
Dec 2 Tuesday	Concert Band Rehearsal 4-5:30pm, Parade Rehearsal 5:30-6:30pm
Dec 6 Saturday	Bluffton Christmas Parade
Dec 10 Wednesday	Christmas Concert Rehearsal after school (Both MRHS Bands)
Dec 11 Thursday	Christmas Concert (Both MRHS Bands)

Note: All dates are tentative - please reference the Band App for up to date schedule and times



Band is a big family and that includes the parents and guardians as well! Band brings everyone together and is a time to be involved and be a part of a friendly and supportive community, alongside your student. Our fall marching season has many opportunities for connecting and we look forward to seeing you at the parent meetings and band events. Thank you to all the parents that have volunteered and shown up to support the band this past year! The band couldn't be a success without the support of parents.

The best way to stay up to date on all things BAND is through the Band App (scan the QR code below to join). We look forward to seeing you at our Band Registration Day on Saturday, August 16th! This will be a drop-in event and times will be posted on the Band App.





BECOME AN OFFICIAL SPONSOR

The May River High School SILVER SOUND band encourages musical excellence, teamwork and school spirit. Our band has a history of achievement at competitions and was invited to perform at the State Festival this year.

Becoming a sponsor of the MRHS Silver Sound Band supports the tradition of excellence in music and allows us to show our gratitude through community recognition of your organization.

2025-2026 SPONSORSHIP LEVELS



CAPTAIN'S LEVEL - \$250

- Sponsor recognition on band website
- Sponsor recognition in all band concert programs



DRUM MAJOR'S LEVEL - \$500

- Sponsor recognition on band website
- Sponsor recognition in all band concert programs
- Sponsor name on official band sponsor banner displayed in MRHS football stadium



DIRECTOR'S LEVEL - \$1000

- Sponsor recognition on band website
- Sponsor recognition in all band concert programs
- Sponsor logo & name on official band sponsor banner displayed in MRHS football stadium
- Sponsor name announced before band performs at MRHS stadium



MRHS BAND SPONSOR FORM

Please check one

- ☐ **CAPTAIN'S LEVEL - \$250**
- ☐ **DRUM MAJOR'S LEVEL - \$500**
- ☐ **DIRECTOR'S LEVEL - \$1000**

Sponsor Name

please provide name exactly as it should appear on all media

Contact Person

Address

Phone

Email

Sponsorship donations are tax deductible. We are a licensed 501C3 Non-Profit. Our EIN# is 81-2893797 and tax paperwork is available upon request.

For Director's Level Sponsors: We will contact you via email for business logo.

Band Student
that obtained
this sponsor:

Sponsorships may be paid by check
(made out to MRHS Band Boosters)
and given to band student/parent or mailed to:

MRHS Band Boosters
c/o: Julie Nizam
3 Mulligan Cir.
Bluffton, SC 29909