

Marching Band 101

When should students arrive back to school for a game? On normal football game nights, students should arrive to the band room at 6pm. Please make sure that your student has had something to eat as they will not have an opportunity to eat until after half-time.

What should students wear? All students must wear black shoes and black socks. Students should think about the weather. If it is warm, students should wear shorts and a t-shirt that they will wear under their uniform. If it is cooler, they may consider wearing tights or under armor. The uniforms are wool.

What kind of black shoes? The shoes should be a black athletic shoe that are comfortable to walk in. Some parades can be long. The shoes should be ALL black with no white markings on them.

What kind of black socks? The socks should be all black and come up to at least mid-calf. We do not want to see any skin on the legs when marching, so no ankle socks.

What happens if students forget their black shoes or black socks?

Students will lose points on that performance for being out of uniform. We have a limited number of black shoes and black socks for these instances. We record the names of the students who use these and give the list to Mr. Kim. The shoes should be returned after the game and their name to be checked off. The socks should be washed and returned promptly to Mr. Kim and their name will be checked off that they have returned the socks.

What is the process for getting our uniform? Students should arrive at the school at 6 and proceed to the uniform room which is located in the hall near the practice rooms. They should form two lines. A parent will hand the uniform to them.

Where do the students change into their uniforms? If students wish to have a changing room, they may change in two rooms that will have the windows covered over. The boys can change in the Choir Room and the girls can change in the "Green Room" that is used for the Theater Arts. ***No one will change in the bathrooms by the uniform room.***

Is there any special features with adjustments about the uniform? Yes, the trousers have two places to adjust. The obvious are the suspender straps. Please adjust the trousers to make sure that they are not touching the ground when you are wearing shoes. This will wear out the bottom of the trousers and will permanently damage the trousers and the student may be fined. New trousers would cost about \$175 and take many weeks to replace. The second place is in the waist – there are zippers and snaps at the sides that slide the

waist tighter or looser. There is also a pocket in the pants as well as the jacket that can hold some money or reeds.

What is the process for putting back the uniforms? Students will go back into the dressing rooms and get out of the uniforms.

1. The slacks should be hung so that the hanging of the slack over the hanger will maintain the crisp crease of the slack.
2. The jackets should be hung so that the back of the jacket follows the curve of the hanger.
3. The top buttons of the jacket should be buttoned and the jacket snaps snapped so that the jacket is hanging without any sags or pulling.
4. inspect your uniform and note any damage or loose buttons or snaps.
5. The beret should be folded neatly and placed under the lapel that is opposite of the zipper and snap side. Be sure to have the correct beret. If you lose your assigned beret, a replacement will cost \$10.
6. Place the uniform back into your garment bag.
7. Return you uniform back to the uniform room.
8. If a uniform is not hung properly, you will be sent back to the end of the line to hang it properly.

What if I have to leave a game early? No student can leave a game early without prior approval from Mr. Kim. Uniforms are not to be taken home. If you do have approval, please make arrangements with one of the uniform co-chairs to meet back at the band room to get changed so that the uniform is returned that night.

What happens if it rains? It is possible that we would be playing for part or all of the game. It also may depend on what type of instrument that is played and how the rain effects. If the uniforms get wet, we ask the students to lay out the uniforms on chairs so that they dry. The jacket should be on the back of the chair and the slacks are to be laid so that the crease will maintain the proper crease and then laid across the chair seat. The uniform bag should be folded under the chair and berets should sit on top of the uniform bag – not inside. Please, do not put away a damp uniform in a garment bag. It will ruin the uniform.

If we do lay out the uniforms, we need help on the following school morning early to put away the uniforms.

Does anyone have any of those easy up canopies that we can use? If rain is in the forecast, we would appreciate any of those canopies to set up so that some of the band can stay out there. Usually it is percussion and some brass.

What can Parents do? Parents are invited to come into the band room area if they would like to help. We are still looking for volunteers to bring the large water container to the stands. Otherwise, come to the unofficial band parent section next to the band section in the stands and watch a game. Parents are invited to help out with the distribution and collection of uniforms. They may also help students get into their jackets. Help them get the jackets zipped up and snapped up properly. They can help keep a clear path so that instruments don't get damaged.

Does the Band play the entire game? No, Mr. Kim lets the kids have the 3rd quarter off so that they can get refreshments during that time. So