



LRHS Marching Band News

Welcome one and all!

Congratulations on becoming a part of the Long Reach High School Marching Band! A performing organization is only as successful as the level of commitment of the individual members. We need to always be working at raising our level of performance to new heights. "If each one gets better, we all get better." Each person, including the director, must work to improve the quality of his or her effort in both playing and marching. We must possess an even deeper commitment and pride for the program.

By taking time to become familiar with the information contained in this newsletter you will help ensure that your membership and contribution to this band will be rewarding and successful. As always, please feel free to contact me via email at bstring32@yahoo.com with any questions you may have. We are looking forward to another fantastic year!

For a successful year,

William String, Director

Band Camp Explanation

The idea of band camp is simple: We all get together for several intensive rehearsals to prepare for the coming season before the school year begins and the rigors of an academic schedule take over. It would be impossible to put together a quality show for our audience without this extra time working together as a band. It is the best chance for members to receive instruction and improve individually on their playing and marching technique. It also allows time for the band to bond as a group and become a team before their rigorous academic schedule begins. Further information regarding band camp will be sent out in another newsletter closer to the end of the school year.

What do I need for band camp?

Music Items

Instrument: We will be playing during our first rehearsal session, so be prepared with your instrument in working order. Please see Mr. String for any special situations.

Clothing

Athletic Shoes: Students may not march with sandals, bare feet, boots or dress-type shoes.

Thick Athletic Socks: This will avoid blisters during marching.

Hat with a brim: Similar to baseball hats – to shade the head and eyes from the sun.

Shorts: This allows for comfort and visual confirmation that the feet and legs are in the appropriate configuration for drill movements.

T-Shirt: Please dress comfortably for the hot weather.

Items to bring

Signed Health and Commitment Contract provided with this letter

Water/Gatorade/Sports drinks: Students need to keep hydrated because we will be outside for many rehearsals. Water will be readily available, and students are encouraged to bring personal water bottles or camel back hydration devices. Please avoid sodas and other sugar/caffeine filled drinks.

Sunscreen: Please protect your skin from the intense sun.

Insect repellent: Bugs will be out, especially in the evenings!

\$75 remaining balance of the \$150.00 Band Camp Fee: See “financial obligations” section below.

Meals

Breakfast: Please be sure to eat a nutritious meal before rehearsal each day.

Lunch (week 2): You must bring a healthy lunch and a drink. We will provide a cool spot to eat, relax, and socialize as a band. **Under no circumstances will students be allowed to leave the campus during band camp hours.**

Provided

Performance Shirt: (included in band camp fees) Our theme show t-shirt must be worn under your uniform at all performances. Shirts will be given out prior to the first home football game.

New News is Good News!

A few necessary updates that have come since our last meeting in July:

- **Band Camp Schedule Finalized:** Please note that **week 1 of band camp (August 4–8)** will be split into **two rehearsal sessions** for each day. This allows us to use the cooler parts of the day for rehearsals and make the most of our time. **During Week 2 (August 11–14)** we will be back to **1 longer session** from **8–4pm** to allow for athletic team practices to coordinate with our schedule.
- **Please note that there is no Friday rehearsal during week 2 of band camp (August 15)**

financial Obligations

Band Camp Fee: A request was made by the majority of band parents to include as many band camp financial obligations as possible into one lump payment for convenience. A \$150.00 fee will be charged to each student to help pay for band camp staff, facilities, equipment needs, food and drinks, and approximately half the cost of drill and music for the show. A non-refundable initial deposit of \$75.00 is needed by May 31, 2008, and the remaining balance will be due the first day of band camp. Checks should be made out to the LRHS Band. The initial deposit ensures that we will reserve a spot on the marching field for the 2008 season. *Note: If the financial obligations cannot be met please contact me for assistance. **Please do not let this be a reason for not participating because help is available!***

Additional Obligations:

Marching Shoes: Shoes will cost approximately \$25–\$30. A representative from our shoe company will be in attendance during band camp to fit students for shoes.

Gloves: Members of some sections, especially color guard and percussion, may be required to purchase gloves for use in rehearsal and performances.

Mark your calendars!

Upcoming Dates

- July 23: Full Band/Guard Rehearsal, 5-8:30PM
- July 30: Full Band/Guard Rehearsal, 5-8:30PM
- August 2: Carwash at Don Pablo's, 11am-2pm
- August 4-8: Band Camp Week 1: *Session 1-8:00AM-12:00PM*
Session 2-5:00PM-8:00PM
- August 11-14: Band Camp Week 2: 8:00AM-4:00PM
- August 19: Full Band Rehearsal, 6-9PM
- August 21: Full Band Rehearsal, 6-9PM

Tentative Fall Performance Schedule

Note: This does not include the football schedule. The marching band performs at all home games and at the homecoming parade.

Another note: The Northern States Championship will occur only on ONE of the four dates on the schedule, but we have not received that information yet. I just thought it was best to put all of the possibilities out there for your information!

- September 27: Homecoming at LRHS
- October 4: USSBA Marine Corps Invitational in Annapolis, MD
- October 11: USSBA Band Festival at Calvert Hall College High School, Baltimore, MD
- October 25: USSBA Western Maryland Regional in Cumberland, MD
- November 8: Northern States Championships-Location TBA

Further Schedule Updates and Contact Information can be found at the Long Reach Band Website at www.lrhsband.org or by emailing me at bstring32@yahoo.com.