

MONROVIA



Parent/Student Handbook 2022-2023

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Welcome to the Monrovia High School Band and Guard Programs Home of the Monrovia Bulldog Brigade

We are excited that you have chosen to be part of our program. The Monrovia Band and Guard are the most successful groups in our school over the past 40 years. We have established ourselves as a premier small school band program in Indiana as a 16-time Marching Band State Finalist and a 14-time ISSMA All-Music Award recipient. Monroe-Gregg Schools have been named a NAMM Foundation Best Community for Music Education for the past four years. This will be a rewarding experience for you and your child.

Please consult this handbook to help you navigate through the school year. We will have many opportunities available to you as we move through the year. We hope this is a valuable experience for your entire family. Understand that preparation and support is vital to making this a rewarding experience. There is no junior varsity with this band. We will work with anyone willing to show up on time and strive for excellence. When you have questions, please first consult the handbook. If you do not find the answer you need, please direct them to your directors or to your Band Booster Board. We hope you have a great year!

How Do I Find Out What is Going On?

The best way to know what is going on hinges on being an active parent in the program and reading the emails sent by your Band or Guard Directors. Booster meetings are held once a month. All parents are invited and encouraged to attend. A wealth of information is given at each meeting concerning schedules, fundraisers, upcoming events, volunteer needs, band camp and much, much more. The best way for you to be informed is to attend the booster meetings regularly and be active on the Band app. **We know your time is valuable so make our best effort to complete meetings in under an hour.** Our meetings are typically scheduled for the first Thursday of each month, at 6:00 pm. from July through November. We move the time to 7:00 pm. for the remainder of the year.

Read your e-mail and get on the Band app! This cannot be stressed enough. E-mail is an effective and important means of communication, so please make sure your current e-mail address is updated on the school Skyward account to receive important information, updates, directions, and times for various contests throughout the year. We will not inundate you with email. The band and guard directors will email you on a regular basis in a mass email and it will be our primary means of communication. This will occur weekly for marching season as we have different performances each week and we will attempt to send one a month after that to ensure you are not bombarded with too many emails. Our Band app is an incredibly valuable tool as well as it will allow for calendars, times, immediate information, and conversations to be at your fingertips. The link is: <https://band.us/n/a2ac7cTfifbdT>.

We have our website, www.monroviabands.com which contains information such as handouts, schedules, accolades, and other valuable information.

Another place that you will find important information is on the board in the band room and all are also encouraged to being directly engaged as active Band Boosters. Calendars, contest schedules, etc., will be told to the students on an almost daily basis. Parents are encouraged to speak with their students about what is going on as the students will be reminded during class time. It will also be e-mailed to each current address and listed on the website. When you change your email, please send an update. If you do not, you will not receive any notifications. If you have questions, please contact anyone listed in this handbook.

A calendar of all 2022-2023 rehearsals and performances will be available online at the start of camp and on the BAND app as soon as it can be uploaded. Please understand that all schedules are subject to change.

WEEKLY UPDATES

Please make sure to check your e-mail regularly for updates and pertinent information on fundraisers, contest schedules, concession events and times, etc. Just a quick note on fundraisers: we attempt to make this as inexpensive for the parents as possible but, in order to do so, we need participation in fundraising. We run the concession stands for the athletic events at school. You will be able to earn money toward any winter fees or trips we have coming up. If you do not like selling things, **get involved in the Scrip program. THIS IS FREE MONEY for anyone involved with it.** Please read ahead to the fundraiser on page 16-17 to get all that information. We are trying to ease the burden on parents.

GENERAL BAND INFO

INSTRUMENT RENTALS AND INSURANCE

Students are expected to provide their own instruments, except for the larger or more exotic instruments such as percussion, tuba, baritones, bass clarinets, etc. The rental fee for school owned instruments is \$35 for the school year. Prior balances must be zeroed out before any new balances are allowed to accrue. Those who are using any school owned instrument will need to submit the rental/liability contract **with their payment** to Monrovia High School prior to receiving the instrument. Loss or damage of school property will be at the student's expense. **End of year cleaning of the instrument will be covered at student's expense and needs to be covered within 30 days of notification to avoid being sent off to Central States collection.**

Parents please make sure your homeowners insurance covers your student's musical instrument. Unfortunately with the number of students involved in this type of activity, accidents can happen. Carrying insurance on your student's instrument may help if an accident occurs.

GRADING POLICY

All grades are based on the following criteria: periodic playing tests, counting drill charts and other assignments announced by the director, attitude in rehearsal and at performances, attendance at all band and guard functions. We will also be having pre and post testing on basic theory knowledge, rhythm recognition exercises, and performance techniques.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY AT ALL BAND AND GUARD PERFORMANCES! Any problems will be dealt with on a personal basis. Any absences from all or part of a rehearsal, summer, fall, winter or spring will be excused if:

1. accompanied with a written doctor's note (preceded by absence from school)
2. death in the family

Students with jobs are expected to be at all rehearsals, inform your employer accordingly. Absence from the last rehearsal before a performance may result in exclusion from that performance. Communication is always important so personally notify directors of any absences. Take responsibility and do not rely on a friend to send the information. That will be treated like no communication occurred. **Fall break rehearsals and performances are required for students to complete the season on the field.**

RULES AND GUIDELINES FOR MONROVIA BANDS

GOLDEN RULES

1. Stop when the conductor/instructor cuts you off. This speeds the process of improvement. You stopped for a reason. Listen for it.
2. Have a pencil on your music stand for all rehearsals. No one can tell if you mark reminders in your music but they will notice if you do not.
3. Do not talk when a conductor or instructor talks. Your director makes hundreds of dollars to help you toward that flawless performance. Let them speak.
4. Respect yourself and others at ALL times.
5. No food or gum during class. Clean up what you have before or after class.
6. No PDA (public displays of affection) during class, in uniform, or on band trips. Guys sit with guys on the bus and girls sit with girls. That may not be an issue pending the transportation situations.
7. Keep the band room and your locker area spotless. This is not your room. Do not be a slob. All excess material will be put in lost and found each week.
8. Absolutely no food in practice rooms at any time. Failure to comply will be met with a referral.
9. Students are not to be in side rooms (practice, instrument, guard) during class time without permission.

REHEARSAL GUIDELINES

1. Each student is expected to be on time, if not early, to all rehearsal/performance functions. Five to 10 minutes early would not be bad.
2. The student is expected to have both their music and instrument ready for all rehearsals and performances. Appropriate footwear is also required.
3. Students should have a pencil ready to mark rehearsal suggestions.

4. Students should behave considerately to whomever is on the podium, whether it be the director or a guest of the band.
5. Students should treat school owned instruments like their own. Any loss or damage of the instrument will be the student's liability and will be assessed accordingly.
6. There are four places your instruments should be (school owned or privately owned)
 - In your hands
 - Lined up in a section
 - Lined up in the cases
 - In your band locker

PERFORMANCE GUIDELINES

1. Marching Band - Make sure all of your uniform parts are clean and fitted properly. Improper uniform care will not be tolerated. Sitting on the ground in uniform is considered improper care. Students will stay in uniform to and from the performance field unless notified by a director. Overly filthy uniforms (students not wearing deodorant prior to performance, cut off t-shirts under the uniform) will be charged an additional \$10/weekend as necessary to clean the uniform. Students will be required to have athletic shorts, short-sleeved t-shirt (not cut off), and mid-calf black socks for each performance. Blue jeans with no holes and a tucked in show shirt are required for home football games.
2. Concert Bands – NO DENIM. Dress pants, dress shoes, collared shirt for gentlemen (tie optional). Black dress pants, black or white dress shirt, closed-toe black dress shoes, or black dress that is cut below the knee and shoulder cover for the ladies. Students without proper attire will not be allowed to perform at that event.
3. Make sure your instrument is in good repair so that you can perform to the best of your ability. If you are purchasing a 'new, director recommended' instrument on eBay or Amazon, DON'T. Please seek the advice of a director when selecting an upgraded instrument or you will be grossly disappointed in what you find out there.
4. All students are to report to the band room at the time specified by the director.
5. When in uniform, No PDA, no eating, no smoking, no vaping, no swearing. You may eat when out of uniform.
6. Everyone should be professional while in a performance setting. Unprofessional behavior could be cause for dismissal from the band program.
7. Jazz Band-unless in concert band attire, performance attire will be jazz band shirt, jeans with no holes and closed-toe shoes.

AWARDS AND LETTERS

Awards are ordered in April of each year to recognize the accomplishments and achievements of the students throughout the year. Special awards (Mid-States/BOA/State Finals patches) will be ordered on an "as needed" basis for all of those interested in purchasing them.

Band or Guard Letters may be earned by collecting 13 points on within the following criteria:

- 5 points participation in band/guard/percussion class for full year
- 2.5 points participation in jazz band without absences @ rehearsal/performances
- 2 points participation with a solo at solo and ensemble contest
- 2 points participation with a solo at State solo and ensemble contest
- .5 points participation with ensemble at solo and ensemble contest
- .5 points participation with ensemble at State solo and ensemble contest

Each unexcused absence will result in a loss of .5 from point totals. Once you hit 2.5 unexcused, you will be removed from the ensemble.

Members can also earn patches upon meeting the following criteria:

- Chevron completion of a marching season
- Bulldog completion of Junior year
- Instrument pin completion of Sophomore year
- Name completion of Sophomore year
- Numerals completion of Freshman year
- Service bar for every 5 points earned over the 13 needed for a letter
- Silver Star Gold rating on Group II, III, IV, or V solo
- Gold Star Gold rating on Group I solo
- Honor Chord completion in program for entire HS scholastic career

MARCHING BAND

MARCHING BAND COMMITMENT

There is a commitment of time and expense required to meet the objectives and expectations of a small school marching band. This includes summer rehearsals, band camp, after school rehearsals, football games and marching contests. Color Guard, Percussion and Winds will have separate sectional schedules as well as full band rehearsals. It is recommended that family vacations for marching band members be planned for prior to the start of marching band. **Students missing summer rehearsals will miss a tremendous amount of work and will need to find time outside of scheduled rehearsals to catch up. It is not an easy way to start the year.** This means performers may not miss any of the six rehearsals from camp until the start of school. All students must be in attendance for rehearsals from band camp through the completion of marching season without unexcused absences to receive the fine arts or physical education credit.

MARCHING BAND FEES (broken down per student based on 50 students)

Band Camp (meals, services)	\$252.00
Marching Band	
Contest fees	\$85.00
Musical/Visual arrangements	\$223.00
Copyright fees	\$27.11

Shirt	\$12.00
Transportation	\$61.00
Props/equipment/flags/show design	\$150.00

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Marching Band Shoes	\$28.00
Marching Guard Shoes	\$35.00
Instrument/Equipment Rental (if required)	\$35.00

Cost per child, based on 45 participants, is \$810.11 for a marching season which is why most programs will charge in abundance of \$1,000.00 and then some. The total for the student portion of marching season was capped at \$600.00. Our ability to provide opportunities for our kids while not raising our parent cost over the past 12 years is **directly related to your participation in the fund raisers that we do. I strongly recommend you look into our Scrip program to help us lower fees even further.** This has the Boosters covering extra most items from the previous marching seasons (props, guard/band uniform, flags, music, and awards/patches, as well as some of the members' fees). They are able to do this because parents, like you, find time to volunteer and help the greater good through our many fund raising opportunities.

STUDENT PAYMENTS

PAYMENT	DUE	PAYABLE TO
First marching deposit (\$100)	March 5, 2022	Monrovia Band Boosters
Second marching deposit (\$200)	April 5, 2022	Monrovia Band Boosters
Third marching deposit (\$150)	May 5, 2022	Monrovia Band Boosters
Final marching deposit (\$150)	July 5, 2022	Monrovia Band Boosters
Equipment rental fee (if needed)	July 10, 2022	**Monrovia High School
Shoe fee (if needed)	August 15, 2022*	Monrovia Band Boosters

*may use individual account/fund-raiser money.

STUDENTS need to be paid in full by July 10, 2022.

Students that drop out of the program cost an additional \$300-\$500 to rewrite the show. No refunds will be available if a student decides not to continue with marching band.

As a non-profit organization, we must pay our bills in a professional and timely manner. It is important that student fees are paid by the dates listed to provide the needed cash flow necessary for us to conduct business with companies we use. Students behind in fee payments may not participate in events that are paid for by those fees. If at any time you experience difficulty meeting the payment schedule, please contact Mr. Willett at 996-2258 ext. 2149 or bwillett@m-gsd.org. It is our hope that you will discuss any problems/conflicts you might have, so that we can try to find a way for your child to participate in this outstanding program.

BAND CAMP

Band camp will be held from Sunday July 10, (8:00 am) through Friday, July 15, (4:00 pm) at Manchester University. **CAMP IS REQUIRED FOR PARTICIPATION IN MARCHING SEASON.** Parents are welcome at camp on any night. We ask that you plan your arrival for after dinner (5:30 pm).

ALL SCHOOL RULES APPLY. NO HAZING!!!

Result could be banned from Program. School discipline will be expected.

FOOD SERVICE

Three meals are provided each day and they are all you can eat with a range of options. There are typically three choices of entrees and a salad/fruit/cereal bar, and a dessert bar available for the students. They are welcome to have food in their dorm room and may bring that with them. Some students will also order pizza in the evenings at their own expense.

HEALTH SERVICES

ALL students need to have an IHSAA physical turned in to Mr. Willett or the athletic office by July 10th, 2022. We require these forms before we can administer any medical treatment to your student. In case of emergency, these forms greatly assist the nurse/doctor in making the correct diagnosis or in administering effective medication. **Physicals are required for all participants. Parents need to fill out the parent forms at www.rankonesports.com which includes several of the school forms they would need.**

Students are not eligible to participate without completed forms. Medical services will be provided by our nurse and on emergency basis at the local hospital. *Parents will be notified immediately of any injury or illness sustained by their child.*

DRESS

Band camp does not require any nice clothes. Shorts, jeans and t-shirts will be ideal dress for the week. Please keep all slogans school appropriate. **Socks and sneakers must be worn at all rehearsals. No sandals, flops, slides, or crocs!** Students need to arrive dressed and ready for rehearsal. A hat or visor* and sunglasses are recommended for morning practice.

*visor = very cool

SUNBURN

Our most troublesome problem at band camp can be sunburn. Some students can develop second-degree burns from being in the sun without protection. We suggest a sunblock of SPF 15-50. Any lower number, you are at your own risk!

1. If you burn easily, **DEFINITELY** use SPF 15 or higher.
2. Prevent sunburned lips with a lip balm treatment with SPF 15.
3. If your nose burns easily, use Zinc Oxide paste.
4. Have Solarcaine or aloe available in case of mild sunburns

STAFF

A complete staff of qualified musicians and drill instructors have been contracted for band camp. They are experienced band personnel, who will assist in field and music instruction.

Brian Willett-band director, Monrovia, DePauw University and Indiana Wesleyan alumnus, 29th year teaching, 25th at Monrovia.

Dr. Al Lilly-trumpet instructor, DePauw University and Indiana University alumnus, 20th year arranging music and was our assistant director for 14 years, Mid-States Band Association and WGI Music Judge.

Lee Gibson-25th year writing drill for Monrovia, Visual and Effect judge, champion guard director, drill designer, uniform/flag designer at Dance Sophisticates.

William Cole-fifth year with Monrovia as assistant director, former director at Cloverdale High School, frequent advisor and camp staff member for the Brigade in prior years.

Chris Sparks-7th year with Monrovia, guard director at Northview High School, former DCI marcher with the Colts, WGI with Juxtaposition.

Laura Hannum-4th year with Monrovia, Director of JV Guard at Plainfield High School.

Emily Larmore-upper woodwind staff, University of Indianapolis, Center Grove High School alum, Music Ed. Major, 7th year with Monrovia.

Gavin Wise-saxophone staff, Monrovia alum, 3rd year on staff, DePauw University student.

Andrew Willett-trumpet staff, Monrovia alum, 3rd year on staff, Ball State University student.

Betsy McCrary-percussion staff, Marian University alum, Monrovia High School alum, Music teacher at Monrovia Elementary, 7th year on staff with Monrovia.

Robby Stevens-percussion staff, Purdue University alum, Monrovia High School alum, served on staff for several years.

AFTER CAMP - MORNING MARCHING BAND REHEARSALS

We will have required rehearsals on July 18, 19, 21, 25, 26, 28, August 1, 2, 4, and either August 13 or 20, starting at 8:00 am. We will be done at noon each day. Any student attending ALL rehearsals over the summer will receive one (1) elective fine arts credit toward graduation.

The week of August 8, we will begin the after school (3:30-5:30 pm) rehearsals throughout marching season. Students attending all marching band rehearsals (summer and fall) will also be eligible to receive a physical education credit.

If a student is missing all or part of a rehearsal, the student is asked to have a note from their parent or a doctor explaining the reason of their absence. Phone calls will be made for unaccounted for students. The two ways to receive excused absences are 1) illness from school, 2) death in the family. **I went to Holiday World or I went to work are not an excused absences. Summer work/attendance is your first grade for the first nine weeks.** Inform your employer accordingly.

REHEARSAL CLOTHING

Students should wear comfortable clothing to all rehearsals. Shirts (that cover undergarments are required for all rehearsals and band camp), shorts, sweats, loose fitting pants, socks, good tennis shoes are the most acceptable attire. You will lose credit for inappropriate footwear. Please listen to weather reports in the morning or evening and plan your attire accordingly, especially as we move further into the fall. You must have proper clothing to change into if what you wear to school does not fill the requirements for rehearsal (sandals/flip-flops, crocs).

UNIFORMS

Uniforms will be fitted and assigned. Each member will need to provide a pair of plain, black socks (mid-calf) for themselves. Shoe sizes and payments need to be submitted by August 15 for anyone needing a pair of the Speedster marching shoes. Any band member that does not have their shoes approved (damage free) by August 15 will have new shoes ordered. Band members are required to wear a t-shirt with sleeves and dark colored shorts under their uniforms and their band show t-shirts at contest after the performance. It is worthwhile to invest in the Under Armour cool gear in the early fall and hot gear in later fall months. Students not using deodorant while in uniform or wearing sleeveless shirts will have an additional \$10 charge per week to clean their uniform.

UNIFORM CARE PROCEDURES

The following procedures are to be followed by each band member. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

1. All uniforms are to be kept in the uniform room or band boxes at school.
2. All pieces of each uniform are in individual uniform bags with the students name on it.
3. Along with the uniform, students are to wear uniform shoes, black socks, dark shorts and a t-shirt with sleeves under their uniform.
4. At performance venues, the band show t-shirt and black shorts are to be worn any time the student is out of uniform. It is considered a travel uniform. Band students may wear any type of short-sleeved t-shirt under the uniform (school guidelines apply). Band show t-shirts are provided to each student.
5. T-shirts are to be taken home and laundered after each performance. DO NOT leave them in the uniform box unless you would like for us to dispose of them for you.
6. Each student is responsible for hanging his/her own uniform back on the hanger properly and returning it to the Box Mom/Dad responsible for the assigned box. The uniform will be checked for proper hanging.
7. Band members are not permitted to eat while in uniform. Water is the only consumable during that time.
8. The proper way to carry the uniform is with the jacket all the way on (zipped and hooked) or with the jacket off and carried, folded over the arm.

9. If there is any problem with your uniform, please bring it to our attention to be fixed.

WHAT EACH BAND MEMBER NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT MARCHING BAND

1. ALWAYS be on time, which means about 5-10 minutes early.
2. When in doubt, stop talking.
3. Show respect to everyone and listen to what ‘veterans’ have to say. They’re probably right.
4. Don’t expect to know everything the first day. Even people who have marched before still have things to learn.
5. Take things seriously, but not TOO seriously.
6. We are very good at what we do because we can focus when we need to.
7. Stay well rested, fed, and hydrated.
8. Always have all your materials on you or close enough that you can get them quickly.
9. Know how to work, but also know how to relax. Know that the two NEVER occur at the same time, EVER.
10. Keep up on your schoolwork. Take every opportunity to do your homework. On the bus, extra time in class, at appointments—do whatever it takes. Be as productive as possible.
11. You will be called out eventually. Don’t be afraid. When it happens, just speak up and don’t worry about being wrong.
12. Always trust your instructors. Especially when you think they aren’t right. They are probably right.
13. You may want to quit at some point. **DON’T!**

WHAT EVERY PARENT NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT MARCHING BAND

1. **Your student is probably more capable than you realize.** Even if you have all the time in the world, you will start to feel like a personal servant if you don’t ask your kids to take some responsibility for their own stuff. Water jugs, lunches, props, laundry—it never ends. Your student can make a sandwich, fill up a water jug, and set out their ‘stuff.’ If you are inclined, help them create checklists so that they remember everything they need to bring. It will be a lot of stuff, so be ready.
2. **Learn to manage your time and teach your student how to manage theirs.** You WILL be busy—especially from August until the middle of November. You will receive schedules in emails, but you MUST find a way to keep track of everything. More importantly, your student will have to balance marching season, school work, and their other activities. Many of the band kids are honor students, and the time management skills they learn will help them throughout their life.
3. **Bring cash, warm clothes and something to sit on.** Most school functions require that you bring cash. Invitationals charge admission, anywhere from \$5 to \$10 per person. Children under 5 are usually admitted free. Most events are cash only but some will allow for online purchase of tickets or hands-free tickets. The same holds for concessions and souvenir vendors at these events.
4. **Take care of your Box Mom/Dad.** The perfect Box parent would have six arms, three heads, and a heart of gold. Remarkably, they accomplish what they do

without extra appendages. These are the people who dress your student, fix hair, wash uniforms. They dispense wisdom, encouragement and snacks with laughter and generosity. They are the people on the front lines who make sure your student is ready to go on the field. This is a job that deserves far more recognition than most understand, so please ask how you can assist.

5. **Band Directors are people, too.** But they are BUSY people. They work long hours and their main focus is the kids. If you have a specific concern about your child and the band program, set up a time to discuss it. If you need general information, you could ask directors, or Booster officers. Mr. Willett will take care to answer all of your questions. Email is the best way to reach him or just remain patient in the band room and he will get to you as soon as he can. On another note: Marching band requires dedication and discipline from your student. The job of the directors is to help your student excel in band. Directors speak loudly, pointedly and sometimes without pleasantries. When mistakes are made, especially due to inattention or lack of effort, there are consequences. Try to relax and allow the process to work. Encourage your student to do their best, listen, and work hard. Everyone wants your child to be successful. You will see this as you move through the season.
6. **We can't do it without you—volunteer and come to the Booster meetings.** You will be asked to commit time, energy, donations and the band fees to the band program. Unlike many sports programs, Monrovia Bands must have parent volunteers for the program to run smoothly, and it is the best way to get to know others. Plan to attend as many Booster meetings as you can. They are only once a month for about an hour. Mr. Willett will address the parents with updates on the show and will answer parent questions. It is time well spent.
7. **READ YOUR EMAIL.** This could be said a thousand times and still not be said enough. As the season progresses, you will get multiple messages. **READ THEM. PLEASE CHECK YOUR EMAIL DAILY.** You may not always completely understand the emails, but **READ THEM.** If you are completely lost, you can ask a director or Booster officer for more info.
8. **Yes, it's worth it!** All of the rides, time, and effort that as a parent, you put into getting your child to practices and performances are worth every second. You may not be able to appreciate that in the beginning. Your student may have days where they are discouraged at first. There is a lot of repetition, hot sweaty days, failures, and disappointments. When the show starts to come together, everything changes. There is a new energy, a new excitement. This is the point where they will either LOVE band, or plan a different activity next year. Most of the kids LOVE band by the end of the season, so make them tough it out for the whole season. It will be worth it.

BAND FAN ETIQUETTE-(or how to watch a band contest without offending people and getting thrown out of the stadium). Generally you need to understand that this is not a football game where people get up and walk around any time they please. You know how disrespectful that is from watching performances at our own stadium. The band performance is to be treated like a symphony concert, respectful of performers who have worked very hard to get where to this position.

Radios (walkie talkie, etc.) are not allowed (as they interfere with ISSMA electronics). Cell phones should be set to vibrate or should be shut off.

AS OTHER GROUPS PERFORM, I SHOULD...

1. Not enter and/or leave the bleachers while a band is performing (do that between bands).
2. Not talk, yell, scream, or stand up during another show.
3. Not make negative comments about another band (not only do those students work hard just as ours do, but their parents are just as proud and are sitting near you). Applaud each show.

DURING OUR SHOW AND DURING AWARDS...

1. Stand up and cheer when the band enters the field!
2. Cheer/applaud during the highlights of the show!
3. Be very quiet during soft parts of the program.
4. Sit together! Many groups sit in a block. You may need to be early to do this.
5. Don't compare our group to others (see section above, #3).
6. Clap for the other bands during awards!
7. Clap for Monrovia! Stay classy and respectful as you do so!

PREPARING OUR STUDENTS...

1. Help them dress, but keep them responsible for their own belongings.
2. ***NEVER*** give candy, etc. to students before a performance.
3. After the band goes to warm up, help with equipment or head to the stands. (The staff can handle it from here)
4. Please try to find a solution to small items without including directors (Billy lost a glove, etc.). Please find a solution.

CRITIQUING OUR STUDENTS...

Every year we have parents and friends (mostly of new members) who get confused on the reward/recognition system. Monrovia will compete with no other band but Monrovia; therefore, just because we may gather a lot of trophies from time to time, that doesn't necessarily mean that we have reached our goals of performance. The staff, drum majors, and section leaders are always working with the entire band to focus on how prepared we need to be for each week of performances and sometimes we may win shows with less than our best performance. Just ask any older student or any parents who have been around for several years and they will explain it to you. If the staff is working on your child more than you think they should, please remember that we as a staff are very committed to all of our young people and have the drive and desire to make them the best they can possibly be. Most of our students have no idea just how good they can truly be, but we do; and, we have the experience, resources, determination, and love to get them there.

ADJUDICATION OF THE BANDS

Most contests will have awards in three main areas, or “the big three” as I call them, Music (how well the band plays or doesn’t play), Visual (how well they move; feet in time, on step, correct spacing between members, body posture, horn angles, etc.) and General Effect (watching the entire show, drill design, programming of music, color guard, how well it flows together). These three will determine the ranking of the band.

Most invitationals will have other areas judged such as Drum Major, Percussion, Color Guard, and sometimes, even Pit Crew parents that set up and tear down the props on the field. Those captions have absolutely no bearing on the final placement of the band.

In ISSMA events, a band must score a Gold rating at District to advance to Regionals.

At Regionals, the band must be in the top 10 at your site to advance to Semi-State. At Semi-State, the top 10 bands will advance to State Finals at Lucas Oil Stadium. State Finals is only to rank the bands in order.

CONTESTS AND INVITATIONAL PERFORMANCES

Usually by Wednesday of a contest week, if possible, a schedule detailing the time line for the contest day, meal plans, and directions will be available in the band room and online. Encourage your child to copy down this information. This information will also be sent out via e-mail to all parents that turn in an address.

Please plan to attend as many functions as possible. This is a good way to meet parents, get to know other students, and support the band for all of their hard work. Look for other Monrovia parents at the contests. The boosters usually try to sit together and cheer the students on and off the field.

When driving to contests, feel free to follow the bus or use the directions available on the schedule for the week. Carpooling from the school with other parents is an option that parents use as well. After the contest, you may come to the bus area to celebrate with the students.

REHEARSALS

Rehearsal time is extremely valuable and we need to have our students focused at all times on the task at hand. With that in mind, we are asking parents who have a question for the directors to ask prior to rehearsal or wait until the end of rehearsal. We are also asking that all parents wishing to watch rehearsals to please do so from the elementary parking lot. This is a request from some of our veteran performers to eliminate distraction throughout the rehearsal. Directors will be available immediately after rehearsals to answer any questions parents may have.

BUS CARRY ONS

NO GLASS CONTAINERS

- Small cooler, bottled drinks/bottled water
- Food, snacks, fruit, etc.
- Jacket or sweatshirt and pants for cool late nights
- Necessary band items and personal items

***Please note:

Students must have enough food or money to purchase what they might want to eat if we decide to feed them at a concession stand. Please make sure your child is prepared to make their day successful. Please attend the Booster meetings to hear more on that.

MARCHING BAND SHOW T-SHIRTS

Information on marching band show shirts will be made available over the summer. One order will be placed for t-shirts.

CHAPERONES

Only parents or guardians may chaperone events where students are participating. Only assigned students and chaperones are allowed to ride the bus. A chaperone is to make sure students behave appropriately.

PARENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Marching Band as well as Concert Band, Jazz Band, Winter Guard programs provide wonderful opportunities for both you and your child. This program like any great program requires a great deal of both physical and financial support. Throughout the year, there are many opportunities for adults to be involved with the band program. We need your help, to continue to be successful. Some of the opportunities are described below and on the Booster page on the website. Parent volunteers must have completed the limited criminal history background check through the school prior to assisting with the group. See Mr. Willett for that form. Parent volunteers will be held to the same conduct standards as other staff and will need to keep language and conduct appropriate in order to continue to assist the group in any capacity.

FUNDRAISING

SHOP WITH SCRIP

The Band Booster Scrip program is an online ordering program at www.shopwithscrip.com. Patrons will need to get online and set up an account and sign up for PrestoPay. Once your account is verified, you will be able to order each week. Orders will be placed by 10:00 am. on Mondays for delivery on Wednesday or Thursday afternoon for physical cards. Once you have an account set up, you may utilize the My Scrip Wallet and Reload features offered through this program. Cards are reloaded within 24 hours. Anyone wishing to use a virtual wallet are encouraged to help in that way. Our enrollment code is B7258LE546659. Sign up and start helping today! 50% of the profit brought in is put right into your child's account. This allows friends and family to participate from other cities each week to help you at NO ADDITIONAL CHARGE to them.

KROGER

Go to <http://www.kroger.com/communityrewards> to link your Kroger Plus Card to the Monrovia Band Boosters. Once you do that, Monrovia Bands will benefit from EVERY purchase you make upon swiping your Kroger Plus Card and you do nothing extra!

FUND RAISERS

We have several trip account fundraisers. Fifty percent of the profit will go to benefit your child's trip account and the remaining profit will be spent on the band.

Band sponsorships are being collected now through September 1, 2022. I will contact our current sponsors and their names will be removed on September 2 if they are no longer interested in a sponsorship. If you or your employer wish to participate, please contact Mr. Willett.

INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS

Individual accounts are set up for each student. These accounts can be used by the student for band trips. The accounts are funded by money earned by the student during fundraisers. We will set up a trip account for your student to use fundraiser money from their Scrip card, cheesecake, candy, and concession work to aid in travel as well as marching fees. Accounts are not transferable if a student quits the program. Program graduates may "hand down" their accounts to their younger siblings.

OTHER STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

SOLO & ENSEMBLE

Each year the Indiana State School Music Association (ISSMA) has a District Solo & Ensemble Festival around the end of January. We encourage all students to participate. Each solo entry is \$15.00 and ensemble entry is \$7.00 per student. This payment will need to be received **PRIOR TO November 24, 2022** for your students to participate in this event. We will require cash or check payable to **Monrovia High School OR Monrovia Middle School** (depending upon which class your child is in) for the total number of events your student is participating in. When a student qualifies for State Solo & Ensemble, an additional payment of the same amounts listed above is required on the day they qualify so they may participate at the State level.

JAZZ BAND/PEP BAND

The Jazz Band performs at all home basketball games and is available to all 7th – 12th grade band members by audition. Practices are typically twice a week throughout the year. This group also performs at several fundraisers over the course of the year. They will perform at boys' and girls' basketball games, and this group provides the music at the Swing Into Spring. Schedules for 2022-2023 will be completed and available upon request and online by the start of school. Students will sign off on their Jazz Binder. Binders need to be taken care of, kept in order, and turned in at the end of the year. Missing binders will come with a charge of \$150 to replace all of the individual pieces from the binder. Broken binders will require a fee of \$12 to replace the damaged binder. 7th grade wind players will audition with the ensemble. All percussionists will audition separately for the two spots. Not all jazz band members will perform for the ISSMA Jazz Festival. All are welcome to go but 24 will perform.

CONCERT BAND

Following marching band, the same band members will prepare for concert band performances and contests. A student that drops the class during fall semester will not be allowed to rejoin the class until the next fall semester. We will host the ISSMA Organizational Contest in April.

WINTER GUARD

Following marching season, the winter guard participates in contests throughout the state without the band. Tryouts are conducted and additional fees required for anyone wishing to participate in Winter Guard following marching season. Winter Guard fees will be determined once the winter guard tryouts are complete. Band members may participate in Winter Guard. They will be subject to the same grading scale/guidelines as those in the dance class based on attendance, performance, attitude, and excellence. It will be an identical scale to what we use during marching season and it will be additional assignments for their seventh period class. Attendance and completion of every rehearsal (set up/tear down) will be part of that grade.

MONROVIA BAND BOOSTER OFFICERS

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