

MONROVIA



BANDS

Parent/Student Handbook 2017-2018

Mr. Brian Willett, Band Director
Dr. Albert Lilly, Assistant Band Director
Mr. Colin West, Color Guard Co-Director
Miss Rachel Tucker, Color Guard Co-Director
Mr. Mike Springer, High School Principal
Mr. Micah Elliott, Middle School Principal
Mrs. Melissa York, Elementary School Principal
Dr. Bill Roberson, Superintendent

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

We are very excited that you and your family have chosen to participate with the most successful program in our school. The Monrovia Band and Guard Program has established itself as one of the premier small school band programs in Indiana as a 13-time Marching Band State Finalist and an 11-time ISSMA All-Music Award recipient. This will be a very rewarding experience for both you and your student.

This handbook has been put together to assist both the student and parent. The band and guard programs provide many great opportunities for your student. We hope we can make this a great experience for your entire family. As with all great endeavors, there is a lot of preparation and support required to make this a rewarding experience for all. We know each year many questions will arise. This handbook has been designed to help answer those. If you are unable to find the answer to your question, please contact me or any of the board members listed on the back of this handbook. We are extremely excited about the work being done on the Monrovia Center for the Performing Arts which will give us a venue to showcase the student's talents. Have a great year!

How Do I Find Out What is Going On?

Booster meetings are held once a month in the High School Band Room. 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. Our meetings are scheduled for the following dates:

Thursday, May 30, 2017, 6:00 pm.	Wednesday, December 6, 2017, 6:00 pm.
Thursday, July 6, 2017, 6:00 pm.	Thursday, January 4, 2018, 6:00 pm.
Thursday, August 3, 2017, 6:00 pm.	Thursday, February 8, 2018, 6:00 pm.
Thursday, September 7, 2017, 6:00 pm.	Thursday, March 8, 2018, 6:00 pm.
Thursday, October 5, 2017, 6:00 pm.	Thursday, April 5, 2018, 6:00 pm.
Thursday, November 2, 2017, 6:00 pm.	Thursday, May 3, 2018, 6:00 pm.

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 email you on a regular basis in a mass email and it will be our primary means of communication.

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

Other places that you will find important information is on the board in the band room and all are encouraged to be directly engaged as active Band Boosters. Calendars, contest schedules, etc., will be told to the students regularly. Parents are encouraged to speak with their students about what is going on as the students will be reminded on a daily basis during class time. It will also be e-mailed to each current

address and listed on the website. If you have questions, please contact anyone listed in this handbook.

A calendar of all 2017-2018 rehearsals and performances will be available on the band website. Please check back as all updates will be made on the website.

WEEKLY UPDATES

Please make sure to check your e-mail regularly for updates and pertinent information on fundraisers, contest schedules, etc. For those that don't have or use the internet, we will print this information, at your request, and make it available in the band room. It will be the responsibility of you or your child to request and take the printed copy home.

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.**

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. Fall break rehearsals are required in order for students to complete the season on the field. Students with one unexcused or two excused absences in a week will not march that weekend.

RULES AND GUIDELINES FOR MONROVIA BANDS

SEVEN GOLDEN RULES

1. Stop when the conductor/instructor cuts you off.
2. Have a pencil for all rehearsals.
3. Do not talk when a conductor or instructor talks.
4. Respect yourself and others at ALL times.
5. No food or gum during class.
6. No PDA (public displays of affection) during class, in uniform, or on band trips.
7. Keep the band room and your locker area clean.

REHEARSAL GUIDELINES

1. Each student is expected to be on time, if not early, to all rehearsal/performance functions.
2. The student is expected to have both their music and instrument ready for all rehearsals and performances.
3. Students are dismissed from rehearsal/competitions when released and all equipment is placed back in the band room or storage room for winter guard. Leaving early will result in loss of credit on that day.
4. Students should have a pencil ready to mark rehearsal suggestions.
5. Students should behave considerately to whomever is on the podium, whether it be the director or a guest of the band.
6. 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.
7. 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. Students will stay in uniform to and from the performance field unless notified by a director.
2. Concert Bands – NO DENIM. Dress pants, dress shoes, collared shirt for gentlemen. Dress pants, dress shirt, dress shoes or dress that is cut below the knee and shoulder cover for the ladies. Students without proper attire will not be allowed to perform.

3. Make sure your instrument is in good repair so that you can perform to the best of your ability.
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 swearing.
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.

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 may 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 the time to make up any work missed prior to their next rehearsal. The 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. Students missing rehearsals over Fall Break will have their positions on the field filled in for the remainder of the marching season.

MARCHING BAND FEES (broken down per student based on 60 students)

Band Camp (overnight lodging, meals, services)	\$372.75
Marching Band	
Contest fees	\$60.50
Musical/Visual arrangements	\$215.25
Copyright fees	\$33.50
Shirt	\$10.00
Transportation	\$10.00
BOA tickets	\$30.00

ADDITIONAL ITEMS (IF REQUIRED)

Marching Band Shoes	\$ 25
Marching Guard Shoes	\$ 30
Instrument/Equipment Rental	\$ 35

The total for the student portion of marching season was capped at \$595.00. **This 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 items from the previous marching seasons (props, guard/band uniform, flags, 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 17, 2017	Monrovia Band Boosters
Second marching deposit (\$100)	May 19, 2017*	Monrovia Band Boosters
Equipment rental fee	July 7, 2017	Monrovia High School
Third marching deposit (\$150)	July 7, 2017*	Monrovia Band Boosters
Fourth marching deposit (\$150)	August 18, 2017*	Monrovia Band Boosters
Shoe fee (if needed)	August 18, 2017	Monrovia Band Boosters
Final marching deposit (\$95)	September 8, 2017	Monrovia Band Boosters

*may use individual account/fund-raiser money

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. 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.

PAYPAL

Paypal.com is another way we can access and send payments for your fees. We have linked with Paypal to accept fees, trip deposits, trip payments, for the Monrovia Band Boosters. Once you have an account, click "Send Money." Enter the email address below and the amount (with the additional fee) and your account will be covered. It is my email and I will be able to update your quick books account and send you a receipt.

payee email: brian.willett@m-gsd.org (this is the school address that you would enter as the payee which notifies my school email that a payment has been made)

FEES: Your fee is 2.9% + \$0.30. (approximately \$5.00 needing to be added to your total if you use Paypal)

You are able to sign up for free and link a bank account or credit card to your account and make your payments.

SQUARE

We will have credit card capability for a 4% charge. (\$150.00=\$156.00, \$95.00=\$98.80, \$395.00=\$410.80)

BAND CAMP

Physicals will be required for marching season. \$10 physicals are offered at Monrovia High School on May 24th, the last day of school. Please see the end of this section for camp information. For your convenience, here is a summary of that information.

Camp is held at Manchester University in North Manchester, Indiana. Band members will leave for camp on Monday, July 10th, at 8:30 am. and will return on Saturday, July 15th, around 4:30 pm.

Suggested items for camp are instrument, music, towels, washcloths, comfortable tennis shoes, comfortable socks, light jacket or sweatshirt, sheets or bedroll, toiletries, loose fitting clothing, hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, band-aids, 3 ring binder with approximately 100 clear sheet protectors, pencils, insect repellent, non-carbonated drinks. There will be swimming available a couple of days but students need to know a one-piece swimsuit for all females will be required. Some students also recommend Gold Bond medicated powder.

ALL SCHOOL RULES APPLY. NO HAZING!!!

Result could be banned from Program. School discipline will be expected. Cell phones are not welcome in rehearsal whether at camp or in the classroom. They may be utilized for communication at contests.

FOOD SERVICE

At camp, three meals a day in an all-you-can-eat buffet will be provided by the dining service. Parents are welcome to attend at any time at their own expense.

HEALTH SERVICES

ALL students need to have an emergency contact list and physical turned in to Mr. Willett by July 7th, 2017. The health form is included with this handbook and on the website. We require these forms before we are able to 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.

Forms will be returned to parents who do not fill out “ALL” applicable information. 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!** A hat or sun-visor* and sunglasses are recommended for morning practice.

*sun-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. Chopsaver with SPF protection is available for \$2.00.
3. If your nose burns easily, use Zinc Oxide paste.
4. Bring Solarcaine or aloe 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, 24rd year teaching, 20th at Monrovia.

Dr. Al Lilly-trumpet instructor, DePauw University and Indiana University alumnus, 15th year arranging music and 12th year as assistant director for Monrovia, Mid-States Band Association Music Judge and Caption Head, private instructor for Indiana Wesleyan, trumpet instructor for Marian University.

Lee Gibson-20th year writing drill for Monrovia, Visual and Effect judge, champion guard director, drill designer, uniform/flag designer at Dance Sophisticates.

Colin West-17th year with Monrovia, color guard co-director

Rachel Tucker-1st year with Monrovia, alumnus, color guard co-director

Emily Larmore-University of Indianapolis, Music Ed. Major, 2nd year, clarinet staff.

Conner Fitzgerald-University of Indianapolis, 1st year with Monrovia, flute staff.

Mackenzie West-Marian University, 1st year with Monrovia, saxophone staff.

Bill Cole: retired band director from Cloverdale, 2nd year on staff at Monrovia for low brass.

Betsy McCrary-Marian University, Music Ed. Major, 3rd year with Monrovia for percussion.

PARENT CHAPERONES

We offer this position to a few of the parents who wish to come up for the week to help the group. Parents are welcome to come to camp at any time.

BAND CAMP DAILY SCHEDULE

We will begin each day at 6:00 am. Meals are at 7:00 am., noon, and 5:00 pm. Parents are welcome at any time but will need to purchase their own meals if dining with us with the exception of the overnight help. We rehearse, either on the field or in sectionals, from 8:00 am.-noon, 1:00 pm.-5:00 pm, and 6:00-7:30 pm. Students are encouraged to spend this time learning music and working toward better performance technique utilizing camp staff assistance. Students are given frequent water breaks when we are in the sun, typically on the hour. After dinner, awards are given out for the day: Rookie of the Day (candy), Veteran of the Day (candy), Honor Squad (based on marching, goes out for ice cream), Honor Section (rides to and from the field), and Best Mental Attitude (male/female daily receives a plaque from the Boosters).

Evening activities include rehearsal on Monday, bowling on Tuesday, swimming or additional rehearsal on Wednesday and Friday. Thursday night is a free night for extra help or parent visitation. Parents are encouraged to join us that evening if they wish. There will not be a performance but students may visit with parents that night.

We will leave Manchester on Saturday, July 15th, and return to Monrovia High School at approximately 4:30 pm. Parents are welcome to attend camp at any time.

AFTER CAMP - MORNING MARCHING BAND REHEARSALS

We will have required rehearsals on July 17, 18, and 20 from 9:00 am.-noon. We will have required rehearsals on July 24, 25, and 27 from 9:00 am.-3:00 pm. Any student attending ALL rehearsals over the summer will receive one (1) elective fine arts credit toward graduation.

The week of July 31, 2017, 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 must 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. **Work is not an excused absence.** Inform your employer accordingly.

REHEARSAL CLOTHING

Students should wear comfortable clothing to all rehearsals. Shirts (required for all rehearsals and band camp), shorts, sweats, loose fitting pants, socks, good tennis shoes are the most acceptable attire. **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/boots). Improper footwear will result in loss of credit that day.

UNIFORMS

Uniforms will be fitted and assigned. **Each member will need to provide a pair of plain, black socks for themselves.** Shoe sizes need to be submitted by August 15 for anyone needing a pair of the Speedster marching shoes. 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. **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 is 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. **Get out of the car and come join us.** Adults can enter the band room without ill effect! Be respectful of practices going on, but come on in and see what is happening. Frequently, there are parents working on projects or hanging around. It is a great time to make introductions and let people know you are new to the band program and would like to get involved. Many parents will park in the elementary lot and watch the evolution of what goes on rehearsal to rehearsal, week to week. It is worthwhile.
3. **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.
4. **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. You **MUST** bring cash. Concessions are cash only, as are some souvenir vendors.

5. **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.
6. **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.
7. **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.
8. **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.
9. **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 ETTIQUETTE-(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

By Wednesday, 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:

Occasionally, the band performs twice in the same day. This means that 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 prior to assisting with the group. 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

Fundraising is a combination of several things. Some raise money for your student's account. Some raise money for the General Fund. Some require selling product to your neighbors, family, and friends. Other activities require you to complete a task in order to enjoy the benefit. Participate as you wish but remember that funds that go to the General Fund also benefit your student's account by reducing the overall band fees.

SHOP WITH SCRIP

All you have to do is purchase gift cards for places you plan to shop and use those cards instead of cash or credit. You earn a percentage of the card's value. You can order these cards as often as you need by signing up for Shop with Scrip and having your order deducted from your checking and savings account. We place an order every Monday by 10:00 am. Many cards are able to be reloaded at any time from your own computer if you are registered for this program.

Go to www.shopwithscrip.com, click on "Create Account" in the green box labeled "Family Sign Up"

It is important to indicate the student's name, when creating your account, in order for you to receive credit for these purchases to your individual student account.

Fill in the required information—the enrollment code is **B7258LE546659**

Click on "I Accept." If you wish to pay for your cards directly from your bank account please follow the instructions below. You may still pay for scrip with a check when you pay on those Monday mornings. When finished, go to "My Account" on the top toolbar, click on Presto-Pay on the left toolbar, fill in the required information and click "Next." Within 2 days, there will be 2 random deposits in your savings/checking account. Make a note of the amounts then sign back in to the Presto-Pay page. Enter the amounts that were deposited. You will be emailed a 4 digit number that you need to forward to Mr. Willett (there is a 15 cent convenience fee each time you use PrestoPay). He will take the 4 digit number and activate your account.

The Scrip center also has a program called ScripNow! You can order, pay for, and print (or screenshot) the card and use it within minutes. **You must be signed up for PrestoPay to use ScripNow.** Many cards can be reloaded. Just look for the "recycle" icon next to the brand. If you have questions, email Mr. Willett (bwillett@m-gsd.org, mhsbandguy@msn.com).

50% of the profit goes to your student account.

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!

BENEFIT-MOBILE

Benefit-Mobile is an app that provides you with a pre-paid mobile wallet that aids as you go about everyday shopping. You purchase digital gift cards and are instantly delivered a barcode or card number for in-store mobile redemption. Instead of a typical credit card where the entire purchase goes to the retailer, the discounted amount gets credited to Monrovia Band Boosters. Discounts range from 3% to 25% of the total transaction. 50% of this profit also goes toward reducing fees for your child.

FUND RAISERS

We have several trip account fund-raisers. The Sheet Sale begins in August, detergent in August and February, Gourmet's Delight cheesecake sale will occur prior to Thanksgiving, World's Finest Chocolate will be in December and our Band card sale starts in March and lasts for four weeks (spring break is included in that time period). Fifty percent of the profit will go to benefit your child's trip account and the remaining profit will be spent on the band.

The sponsorships for the trailer are being collected now through August 1, 2017. I will contact our current sponsors and their names will be removed on August 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 fund-raiser money from their Scrip card, cheesecake, candy, and band card sales 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 17, 2017** 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 the Barnes and Noble Bookstore in Plainfield twice a year, and this group provides the music at the Swing Into Spring. Schedules for 2017-2018 will be completed and available upon request and online. 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 \$100 to replace all of the individual pieces from the binder. Broken binders will require a fee to replace the damaged binder. 7th grade wind players will audition with the ensemble. All percussionists will audition separately for the two spots. 24 members will participate as part of the contest group for the Jazz Band.

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.

WINTER GUARD

Following marching season, the winter guard participates in contests throughout the state without the band. Additional 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.

CONTACTS

Brian Willett	Director	mhsbandguy@msn.com	317-996-2258 ext. 2149
Dr. Albert Lilly	Assistant Director		
Colin West	Color Guard Co-Director		
Rachel Tucker	Color Guard Co-Director		

BOOSTERS

Michael Parker	President
Bryce Johnson	Vice-President
Stacey Poston	Treasurer
Germaine Willett	Secretary