



Mountain Brook High School Band

Marching Spartan Information 2020-2021

COVID-19 UPDATE! Due to many variables outside of our control, this handbook will be updated often. Please be sure to check emails regularly. Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns!

Marching Band Parents and Students:

I would like to welcome you to the Mountain Brook High School Marching Band! By joining the MBHS Marching Band, you have joined a network of friends who share a common interest and are working together to achieve excellence in musical performance. You will learn musical skills, discipline, leadership, and teamwork – all while having fun. The MBHS Marching Band is scheduled to perform at 2 competitions, home and away football games, local parades, and other school and community functions. All rehearsals and performances are updated on our band calendar which is available on our band website:

<http://www.mtnbrook.k12.al.us/Page/9500>

The staff has been working hard this summer preparing our show for this upcoming season and we hope that you will be challenged by the show while still having fun performing. The MBHS Marching Band is far more than music or drill on the field and that is all thanks to the attitude, energy, and enthusiasm you bring with you.

This informational packet has a wealth of information to help acclimate you to the MBHS Band Program. Please read thoroughly and contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jason Smith
Director of Bands

Covid-19 UPDATES!

As we are updating our handbook, we are in the midst of an unprecedented pandemic. As information is provided to us concerning the nature of music education we will update our policies and requirements accordingly. Rest assured that we have already planned precautions for cleaning instruments and supplies and proper social distancing as required. Of course, we do not know what holds for us in relationship to concerts, athletic event performances, traveling, contests, etc. We will continue to update this handbook as quickly as necessary.

Mountain Brook High School Bands

The MBHS Marching Spartan Band provides the opportunity to understand and enjoy music through instructional activities that lead to the performance of music for outdoor events. It enforces the basic musical elements common to all sound instrumental music instructional programs and is one component of a well-balanced secondary level instrumental music program. Although the main reason for its existence is to promote musical growth and understanding, the marching band also serves a valuable role in meeting the needs of the school and community through extracurricular activities that strengthen public relations, provide entertainment for outdoor functions, and encourage parental involvement in school activities.

The MBHS Marching Band is composed of 9th-12th grade students who are currently a member of the MBJHS Band Program and the MBHS Band Program. The band combines members of the Dorians and the Color Guard with the band to create the Marching Spartans. Although composed of several groups, the MBHS Marching Band is one unit with the singular goal of creating exciting performances for our audience.

The MBHS Marching Spartan Band will perform at all varsity football games, select pep rallies, and parades. The band will also perform at select band competitions. Competitions in the marching band setting can be an effective motivational experience for students if it is used as a means for teaching and reinforcing positive behaviors in the context of a well-balanced secondary level instrumental music program. Marching band competitions should be approached as one of the many learning opportunities available to students in the marching band, but not the primary reason for the marching band's existence.

The MBHS Marching Spartans Staff Information

- Jason Smith, Director of Bands, MBHS
smithj@mtnbrook.k12.al.us
- James Rogers, Associate Director of Bands, MBJHS
rogersj@mtnbrook.k12.al.us
- Michelle Beck, Assistant Director of Bands, MB Elementary
beckm@mtnbrook.k12.al.us
- Heather Fitch, Dorians
fitchh@mtnbrook.k12.al.us
- Susanna Solar, Dorians
solarss@mtnbrook.k12.al.us

Band Camp Information

Band camp is required of all band members. All band students are expected to be ready for camp by preparing physically and mentally over the summer break. Students practice their instrument and prepare their music, as well as spend time outside in order to become acclimated to the heat, will fair better and band camp.

Band Camp typically begins 2-3 weeks before school begins. As **all students are expected at band camp**, please make arrangements to avoid conflicts with vacations, summer camps, and other important happenings. Missed rehearsals by any student has a huge impact on other students. Please communicate conflicts early and often.

Band Camp Schedule (subject to change)

July 28-29	LEADERSHIP CAMP	8:30am-12:00pm 2:00pm-4:00pm	CB Elementary MBHS
	<i>*required of band leadership</i>		
July 28	MUSIC REHEARSAL	5:00pm-8:00pm	MBHS
*July 29	MUSIC REHEARSAL	5:00pm-8:00pm	MBHS
July 30-31	ROOKIE CAMP	9:00am-12:00pm	MBHS
	<i>*required of all new members</i>		
July 30	MUSIC REHEARSAL	5:00pm-8:00pm	MBHS
AUG 3	FULL BAND CAMP	2:00pm-5:00pm 7:00pm-10:00pm	MBHS
AUG 4	FULL BAND CAMP	2:00pm-5:00pm 7:00pm-10:00pm	MBHS
AUG 5	FULL BAND CAMP	2:00pm-5:00pm 7:00pm-10:00pm	MBHS
AUG 6	FULL BAND CAMP	2:00pm-5:00pm 7:00pm-10:00pm	MBHS
AUG 7	BAND PICTURES	700am	DORIANS
	REHEARSAL	730am 930-1100am	FULL BAND and Individuals
AUG 12	FULL BAND REHEARSAL	3:45pm-5:45pm	MBHS

AUG 13	FULL BAND REHEARSAL	3:45pm-5:45pm	MBHS
	<u>BAND PARENT MEETING</u>	6:30pm	TBD
	PARENT PREVIEW	7:00pm-7:30pm	STADIUM

Regular Rehearsal Schedule

The Marching Spartans rehearse regularly after school each day. For the most accurate schedule, please use the google calendar on the band website. Dates are subject to change, so please check the website calendar often.

Aug	17, 18, 19, 20, 21	FULL BAND REHEARSAL HOME vs Vestavia	345-545
	24, 25, 26, 27 28	FULL BAND REHEARSAL HOME vs Huntsville HS (Senior Night)	345-545
	31	FULL BAND REHEARSAL	345-545
Sept	1, 3 4	FULL BAND REHEARSAL AWAY vs Woodlawn	345-530
	8,10 11	FULL BAND REHEARSAL AWAY vs Huffman	345-530
	15, 16 17	FULL BAND REHEARSAL HOME vs Shades Valley	345-530
	21, 22, 24 25	FULL BAND REHEARSAL AWAY vs Thompson	345-530
	29	FULL BAND REHEARSAL	345-545
Oct	1	FULL BAND REHEARSAL	345-530
	6, 7, 8	FULL BAND REHEARSAL	345-530
	9	HOME vs Briarwood	
	10	BAND CONTEST (TBD)	
	13, 14 15	FULL BAND REHEARSAL HOME vs Homewood	345-530
	20, 21, 22 23	FULL BAND REHEARSAL HOME vs Chelsea	345-530
	24	BAND CONTEST (TBD)	
	28 29	FULL BAND REHEARSAL AWAY vs Austin	345-530

****Football Playoff Games are required. Rehearsals for playoff games will take place on the day before the game from 345-430.***

Attendance Policy

Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory unless prior arrangements have been negotiated. Exceptions may be made based on specific circumstances. If a band member misses a rehearsal, they are expected to make up any material that was covered in that rehearsal. Notification of an absence (other than an illness) must be submitted to Mr. Smith in writing at least 2 weeks prior to the rehearsal or performance.

The following reasons are excusable absences from band rehearsals or performances: weddings, funerals, religious observances, close family graduations, illnesses, or conflicts with a school activity that have been documented in advance and approved by Mr. Smith.

The following reasons are not excusable absences from band rehearsals or performances: part time jobs, birthdays or birthday parties, non-school related sporting events, concerts or other entertainment events, packing or cleaning for vacations, homework, studying for tests, being tired, or having a busy week.

If you think you have a conflict with a scheduled rehearsal or performance, please contact Mr. Smith as early as possible so that the matter can be resolved in the best interests of the band member and the ensemble.

Band Fees

- **\$200 Band Fee, WINDS AND PERCUSSION**

- **\$125 Band Fee, DORIANS**

This fee is due from each student by July 15th, 2020. This fee will help defer cost of instruction, show design, drill writing, music arranging, and other costs associated with camp.

- **\$125 Uniform Fee (WINDS AND PERCUSSION)**

This fee is due from each wind and percussion student by July 15th, 2020. This fee covers the cost associated with uniform care for the season.

- Band Fees can be paid online using the following link:
 - [PAYMENTS ONLINE](#)
 - Link is available in the resource tab of the Mountain Brook High School webpage under "resources - online payments"

Required Materials for all Rehearsals (in addition to musical instrument/equipment)

- WATER JUG - 1 gallon minimum, Labeled with Name and Instrument
- FACE MASK
- SMALL HAND SANITIZER
- Snacks
- Hat
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray
- Sunglasses
- Pencil
- Music / Drill Binder
- Lyre and Flip Folder
- Light rain jacket
- Change of clothes in case of bad weather
- What to Wear for Rehearsals
 - Comfortable athletic style t-shirts and short
 - Socks and athletic shoes – NO sandals or flops.
 - ALL ATTIRE MUST COMPLY WITH MBHS DRESS CODE REGULATIONS

Uniforms

- *Uniform Chair* Tracey Martin tracey@martinsmail.net

Marching Band uniforms are provided by the band program. Uniforms consist of bib pants, a band jacket, and a shako (hat). Each person in the band will be individually sized for a uniform during band camp each year. Students may need to alter the length of the bib pants in order for them to fit properly. Uniforms must be properly checked out before each performance and returned immediately after the performance. Students must properly take care of uniforms by hanging them up properly. Aside from special circumstances, students are not allowed to have food or drink in uniform. No jewelry should be worn with marching band uniform.

Students must provide the following items for their marching band uniform:

- **Black athletic socks, LONG** - no short socks or no-see-ums are allowed.
- **DSI Vector** (black marching band shoes) available for purchase via band website.
- **Black athletic shorts**
- Director specified t-shirt (band shirt provided)

Symphonic Band uniforms consist of a tuxedo for boys and a black concert dress for girls. The band program has tuxedos for males to use. Students must provide a white tuxedo shirt and black dress shoes. Female students may use a concert dress provided by the band program or purchase one of their own. In addition, female students must provide black flat dress shoes to complete their uniform. No jewelry should be worn with a symphonic band uniform.

MBS Band Parent Association

The MBHS Band Parent Association is composed of parents of band students from every level of the MBS Band Program, grades 6-12. We encourage all parents to support their students' musical aspirations as well as physically support the fundraising goals of our entire program.

2019-2020 MBHS Band Parent Association Executive Board

- *President* Nicole Boomhover 205-542-1940 nicole@boomhover.com
- *Vice President* TBD
- *Treasurer* Lori Beth Kearley 205-568-6793 lbkearley@vhal.org
- *Secretary* Laney Kent 205-914-0625 kentl@mtnbrook.k12.al.us
- *Public Relation* TBD
- *Elementary & JHS Liaison* Lori Hannon 205-568-6783 mrsbrookwood5@gmail.com

The MBS Band Parent Association develops, organizes, and implements fundraising activities for the band program. Through the fundraising efforts of our booster parents, all band students are provided additional instruction from professional musicians. Fundraising also allows the band program to provide quality instruments and provide proper upkeep to existing instruments.

The primary fundraiser for the band program is the football concessions. Parents are asked to serve in the concession stand at home football games (Varsity, JV, 7-9th grade) at the MBHS stadium. All proceeds serve every level of the program!

Sign-up Genius is utilized to allow parents to quickly choose a date and time that best fits their schedule. As every band student benefits from the funds that are raised, **we require that all parents volunteer to work in the concession stand!**

- *Sign-up Genius Coordinator* Amy Benton
501-940-1362 amylynnsb6@gmail.com

Each year, the band participates in several other fundraisers that will help the band raise funds for specific goals. Each member and parent are asked to participate, but participation is not required.

In addition, we have a dedicated **Equipment Crew**. Parents who wish to serve by loading, unloading, and moving equipment for performance and rehearsals may volunteer to serve.

- *Equipment Manager* Eddie Allen
205-908-9853 eddie_allen@deanfoods.com

The Band Boosters also sponsor our Band Banquet held annually in April. Parents volunteer to decorate for the event as well as help recognize parents and students for a successful year.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact the directors if you have any questions or concerns.

COMPLETION OF THIS FORM IS REQUIRED BY THE
MOUNTAIN BROOK BOARD OF EDUCATION

**MOUNTAIN BROOK BOARD OF EDUCATION
32 VINE STREET
MOUNTAIN BROOK, ALABAMA 35213**

RELEASE FORM FOR SCHOOL RELATED ACTIVITIES

MOUNTAIN BROOK CITY SCHOOLS BAND DEPARTMENT

In consideration of Mountain Brook Board of Education (the Board) arranging a student trip to:

All Mountain Brook High School Band Events for the 2020/2021 school year.

and in consideration of the Board’s approving the opportunity for and permitting the undersigned Participant to go on, attend, participate, and/or take part in said activity, the undersigned Participant and the undersigned Parents or Legal Guardian of the Participant do hereby release, remise and forever discharge, indemnify and agree to hold harmless the Board, its officers, teachers, members, agents, servants, employees, chaperones, and other representatives and/or any one of any thereof against any claim, demand or cause of action whether now in existence, or hereafter arising, for any injury to the person of or for the death of the Participant or loss of or damage to the property of the Participant, arising out of, resulting from, caused by, occurring during, or in any way connected with the aforesaid student trip.

Each of the undersigned hereby acknowledges receipt of a copy of this Release and permission for the Participant to engage in all activities listed above.

Date _____

Student Name (Please Print)

Parent Name (Please Print)

Parent Signature

Parent Cell (for emergencies only)

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO EITHER THE JHS OR HS BAND OFFICE ON or
BEFORE AUG 5th, 2020.**