

Parent's Guide to



McMinnville High School Band Program
2019-2020

We're on the verge of something big!
www.MacBand.net



Welcome Band Parents!

Congratulations! Your child is now a part of the Mac Band (Winds, Percussion, and Color Guard - collectively referred to as the Band), which means that you are now a part of the McMinnville Band Parent Organization. The MBPO is a dynamic group of parents who support the Mac Band in a variety of ways. We hope this guide will help you feel more comfortable with your first marching, jazz, concert, and winter guard seasons, and also give you some "insider" information to help you through the upcoming year.

Philosophy

I believe that every student should have the right and privilege to be a part of a quality band program that demands a high level of excellence in a safe and fun environment. I believe in stretching students in order to reach new levels of ability. The band program should be a representative for the school and community that it serves, through the demonstration of school spirit, outstanding performance, and quality citizenship.

~ David Barton, MAC Bands - Director

McMinnville Band Parent Organization MBPO

Band Parent meetings are held on the **2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.** We usually meet in the Band Room, Library, or 9th Grade Den at MHS. You will always walk away with information your kids forgot to tell you or you may even be the first to find out information on what's to come. Everyone is welcome!

There are many opportunities throughout the year to volunteer in various ways. Chaperoning, moving equipment, providing meals, building props, sewing uniforms, raising money, and much more. Please consider sharing your skills and talent and feel free to join in as much as you like.

Parent Involvement = A Successful Band Program

Staying Connected

- ☑ Join us at our monthly band parent meetings
- ☑ Visit the Mac Band website (www.macband.net) to see what's happening now and what's coming up
- ☑ The MBPO sends out a weekly email with updated information, current schedules and activities, and other interesting items. Please make sure we have your email address! You can sign-up at www.macband.net/parents
- ☑ For important reminders and last minute updates, sign up for the high school band text list. Simply text @M4CB4ND to 81010. These messages come directly from Mr Barton.



Questions? Send an email to mbpo40@gmail.com

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McMinnville Band Parent Organization MBPO

The McMinnville Band Parent Organization (MBPO) is a vital and essential element of the band program and a catalyst for success. It would be nearly impossible and unfair for a single band director to be able to accomplish all of the tasks that are expedient to the building and maintenance of a quality band program. Parents are encouraged to fill specific responsibilities within the organization and are invited to participate in the events of the band program. Many hands make light work.

Fundraising

While the band is a curricular program at McMinnville High School, school funding does not cover all the expenses of operating the program. This usually comes as a surprise to "rookie" parents. Fundraising and fees help to pay for everything from caring for the uniforms to paying for guest instructors, arrangers, drill writers, bus transportation, competition entry fees, equipment and large instrument maintenance, etc. There are multiple fundraising opportunities throughout the marching and concert seasons that your child **and you** can participate in. A few examples would be:

- Community Events such as the Duck Race
- Sending donation letters to family and friends
- Annual March-a-Thon
- Various Sales
- Concession Booths
- Concerts
- Jazz Night
- Collecting Bottles and Cans

Financial Assistance

The MBPO offers Grants to families who are not able to afford the fees required to be part of the Band Program. Please download the Financial Assistance Request Form from the macband website and turn it in to Mr. Barton.

How to help

There is always something you can do to help the Band.

- Driving the trailer to competitions
- Setting up tents
- Moving equipment
- Feeding the band/color guard
- Hauling props
- Fitting and sewing uniforms
- Chaperoning the bus rides
- Fundraising
- Ask other Band Parents



5 Ways to Show Your Support

1. Give your child support and encouragement for being in the band.
2. When picking up your student from band activities, come early, get out of your car, watch the band, and get to know the other parents.
3. Attend football games and competitions to show your support and cheer on the band.
4. Volunteer and help with fundraising
5. Come to the band parent meetings

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Band Program Overview

Wind Ensemble / Concert Band - All year. This is the core of the band curriculum. Taught during regular school hours. Band members perform as part of the Marching Band during the fall season. The concert season will begin immediately after the last marching performance (beginning of November) and extend through the end of the school year.

The Wind Ensemble is the top concert band at McMinnville High School. It is mainly made up of Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors. This performance ensemble will play challenging literature and perform in numerous concerts during the year.

The Concert Band is made up of primarily 9th grade students, students who would like to learn a new instrument, or those who have not participated in a band class. This performance ensemble will be challenged musically through appropriate literature and performance opportunities.

Jazz Ensemble - All year. Jazz Lab 1 Meets during 0 period (before school). It is a graded class. Practice begins at 7:00 a.m. and finishes at least 15 minutes before the regular school day begins. The Jazz Lab I band has a set instrumentation and is open to all students who desire to play. Extended instrumentation will be determined by the instructor if the need arises. The Jazz band is the most mobile of all of the performing groups and therefore will be utilized on numerous occasions outside of the high school campus. Some weekends are required for performances.

Percussion Class - Each semester. The percussion class meets during the regular school day and is open to all students grades 9-12. It is recommended that all percussionists be enrolled for this class. They will make up the percussion sections for each concert band, they are the drum line for the Marching Band, and they will also perform as a separate ensemble.

Guard Class - Fall semester. This group is open to all interested students. Guard students will learn performance technique, movement basics, and equipment basics - flag, rifle, and saber. All instruction will be given at an appropriately challenging level based on the student's level of ability.

Marching Band - Mid-August through early November. The Marching Band is made up of Wind students from the concert bands, Battery (Drumline) and Front Ensemble from the percussion class, and Color Guard from the guard class. These students work together to create a quality performance ensemble that performs for every home football game, pep rallies, local parades, and marching competitions. Membership in the Marching Band is required for all 9th grade band students. In the fall, the marching band rehearses during scheduled class periods. The band also participates in rehearsals and competitions outside of the school day, including Saturdays.

Pep Band - January - February. All band students are expected to perform with this fun group. The Pep Band is one of the largest contributors to the spirit and atmosphere of the game. The band plays during home basketball games - not more than twice a week.

Winter Percussion - A new performance group that began in the 2018-19 school year. Winter Percussion consists of a Battery (Drumline) and Front Ensemble. This group practices outside of school as an extracurricular activity. Performances are on select Saturdays in February, March and April.

Winter Guard - Season starts after winter break and completes in March. The Winter Guard is an independent performing ensemble that is open to all interested students. This group practices outside of school as an extracurricular activity. Practices are typically two or three times a week after school with a few longer Saturday practices. Students need to be committed to the activity for the duration of the performance season. Performances are typically all-day on select Saturdays in March.

Parade Band - Late Spring - early Summer. The Parade Band represents McMinnville High School at local community celebrations. The band marches in 2-4 parades each year - usually on Saturdays.

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Marching band, the sport for intelligent people

Anonymous

Marching Band

What to Expect...

It takes a lot of hard work and commitment to put a Marching Band show together. The Mac Band will represent McMinnville High school during home football games and 4 marching competitions this year. Each person has a vital part in the show. There are no understudies so your child's commitment to the band and its show is essential. Plan on committing all of the Saturdays in September and October to the Marching Band. We will be either at a competition (all day) or rehearsing (probably not all day). These two+ months will most likely be the hardest but the most fun and rewarding for your child.

At Band Camp (August 5th-8th - tentative):

Band Camp is both a mental and physical challenge, but it gives your child a sense of accomplishment at the end. For band camp your child will need a large **water bottle, hat, sunblock, athletic shoes** (no sandals). The 2019 camp will be held at Nestucca High School (tentative). Every member of the Marching band is expected to participate **all** week. Students should not schedule doctor appointments, family get-togethers, photos, classes, work, etc. during this week.

At Football Games (September/October):

Band students will report to the band room at the time specified by the director. At this time, the students change into their uniforms and get ready to head out to the stands. During the game, they will sit in a designated section of the bleachers and perform the fight song, pep tunes, etc. Parents and friends cannot sit directly with the band, but are welcome to sit in the stands and watch the game and the band perform. At some of the games, the band will perform a portion of their show as halftime entertainment. After the game the band will put away their uniforms and instruments, get final announcements if any, and then be dismissed by their section leader.

At Competitions:

Marching band competitions are where many different bands compete/perform. For the band, competitions are like "game days". Each competing band will be critiqued, scored, and ranked by qualified judges in the different areas of their performance. Remember, the band will perform no matter the weather. The band needs your support as a cheering section in the stands! If possible during field shows, try to sit in a central area of the stands towards the top to get the best overview of the performance and formations. A good stadium seat cushion comes in handy. Be aware that you can only enter and exit the stands between each band's performance. Show your spirit by wearing your spirit wear (MBPO shirt?) or school colors and cheer them on, but be courteous to the other spectators and performers. You can also sign up to help with chaperoning, moving equipment, and feeding/watering the band. The MBPO will provide many meals during the marching/ winter guard season. Competitions are a fundraiser for the host school, so there is an admission fee charged to spectators (although volunteers can often get in free or at a reduced price.) There are also concessions for spectators and other band-related merchandise available at some events. Usually, the awards are given out after all bands have performed. If you do not attend the competition, please arrive at MHS a little before the designated time to pick up your student but be prepared to wait as they may need to check in uniforms before they leave.

"I love when my awful days fall on band nights, because then I know as soon as I get the first hug from my band friends, I'll be okay. Marching band is our escape from the real world, and into a world of music, fun, stupid jokes, dumb pranks and popsicles. I've never found a group I love more than you guys."

"We have a bond that no one else can understand. Each section combines to a form of great band. All of us have worked hard, day in and day out, so we know we did our best, we have no doubt. No matter what the outcome at the very end, we are still a family – a family of friends."

What it costs to put on a Marching Band Show

Mac Marching Band Yearly Cost

Marching Band is expensive, but well worth every penny. The following information will give you an idea of just how much it costs. Obviously, there are instruments and equipment that can be used for many years, but the items on this list are not things that will carry over from year to year.

We use this Estimated Budget to find out what the student "fair share" is for the year 2019 -2020.

The estimated cost is \$250.00 per student based on 100 students and includes band camp, parades and 4 competitions.

Leadership retreat: \$200.00

Marching Band Camp: Will tentatively be at Nestucca High School in fall 2019.

10 Meals x 100 students and 10 chaperones \$3300.00

Instruction for guard and percussion \$2000.00

Summer Dance Camp for Guard: based on 12 guard members \$600.00

Show/Competition expenses:

Music \$2000.00

Drill and design \$1000.00

Props \$1000.00

Entry fees 4 shows \$1400.00

Meals 4 shows \$2000.00

\$500 per show 2 meals each day

Clinicians/instruction \$3000.00

Transportation \$3000.00 ?? /school busses -\$ (Grants Pass)

Overnight comp. \$3500.00 hotel/ school -\$ (Grants Pass)

T-shirts usually donated -\$0

Uniforms cost per student about \$25.00 x 100 students = \$2500.00

(Cleaning - Repairs- Gloves - Shoes)

Guard costumes \$ 900.00

Flags \$ 400.00

Parades:

Starlight \$400.00

transportation \$ 0 so far school busses have been provided by school

snacks \$ 60 x 4 parades = \$240.00
water, ice pops or bar.

Estimated Total Show cost \$27,440.00

I love marching band because...
I love being a part of something greater than I can ever be alone.
I love that natural high you get from performing your show.
I love that rush you feel after you finished your best performance.
I love how without anyone saying anything after we perform, we all know how we did.
I love practicing to try to get as close to perfect as I can.
I love pushing myself beyond what I think are my limits and finding out how much I am doing actually capable of doing.
I am & always be a performer.

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Organization

Organizational Chart

- Director: David Barton
- Staff/Consultants: Guard Instructor, Percussion Instructor, Front Ensemble, Pit Crew
- Drum Majors: Students who conduct the band for practices and performances.
- Section Leaders: Student leaders who are in charge of assisting their instrumental section.
- Band Members: Winds, Percussion, Guard
- Mac Band Parent Organization: Parents and volunteers who make up the non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the band and color guard program.

Drum Majors

Drum majors for the Mighty MAC Band are in a position of service. They are to serve their marching band to the best of their ability and know how. The drum majors conduct and 'direct' the band during practices and performances. The drum majors will be a Senior and a Junior from the band program who have marched all the years of their high school career. They will be chosen by the band director after an audition period. Students wishing to audition for drum major will be given the opportunity at the completion of each marching season.

Section Leaders

As the ensembles grow, so does the necessity of student leadership within the groups. Section leaders will be chosen by the director to assist with the instruction and organization of the separate instrumental sections. Responsibilities may include any of the following: take attendance, facilitate sectionals, pass along instructions, answer questions from section individuals, serve as an example of leadership and musicianship. Students will NOT be placed in a position to discipline or grade another student.

Band Members

Each band student is important to the success of our many activities. The Band must be able to count on your child's attendance at rehearsals and performances. If a family emergency occurs, PARENTS, please contact MR. Barton as soon as possible. Occasionally, there may be scheduling conflicts with family commitments - weddings, graduations, etc. Please try to notify Mr. Barton of these commitments well in advance. He will try to be flexible and work with you on an individual basis.

"I understand the difficulty of scheduling a large family with all of its many diverse activities and responsibilities. However, doctor's appointments, personal job schedules and other such activities are not reasons for an excused absence. Please review the band calendar and take care of any conflicts that appear to be existent. I am always willing to sit down with a student or parent that has concerns about scheduling."

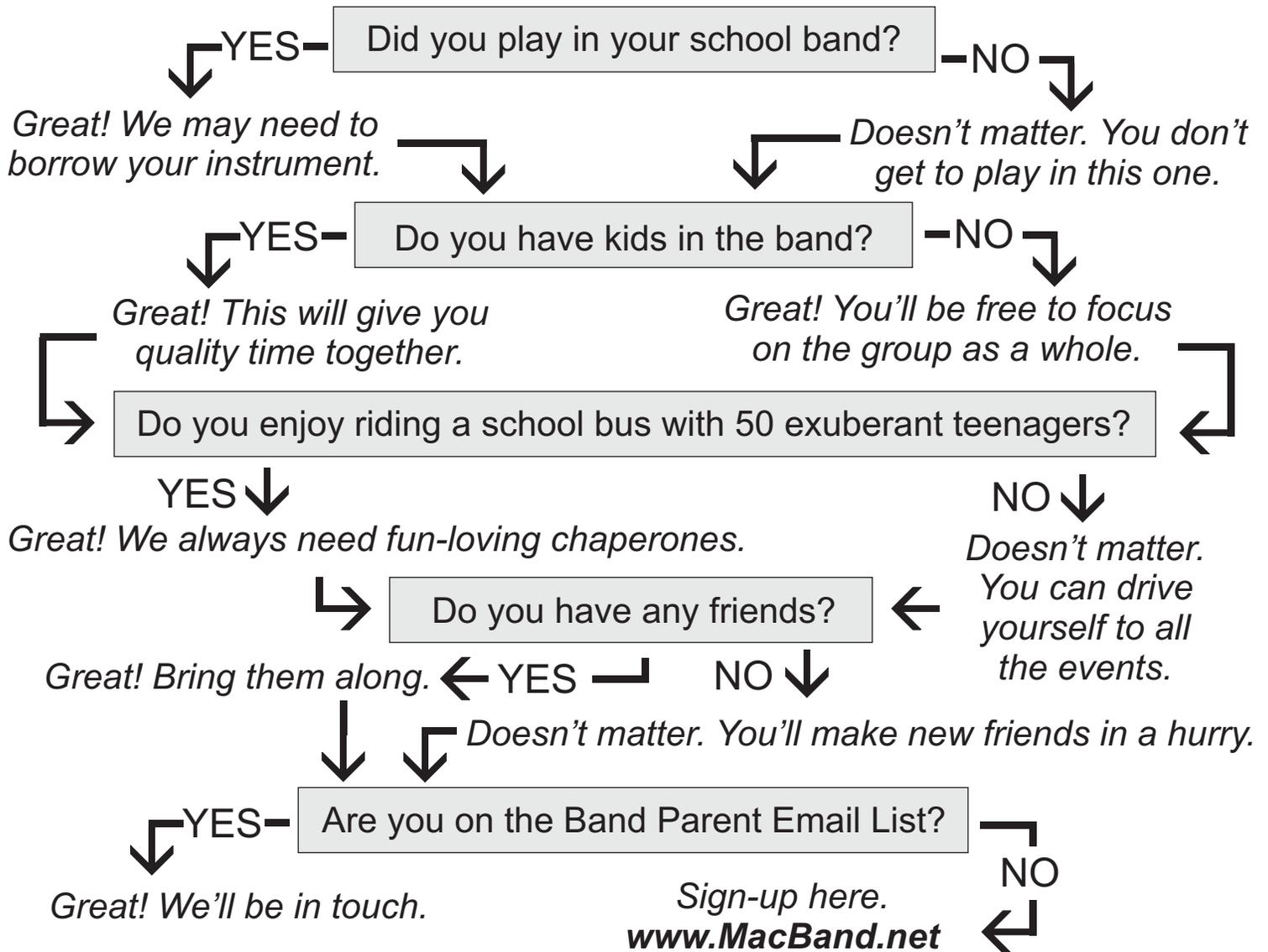
Expectations

Band students are expected to be dependable, prompt, and attend all rehearsals and performances. They will strive to meet high expectations of practice, leadership, and musicianship. Band students represent McMinnville High School to the community and are expected to wear the appropriate attire for each ensemble.

Mac Pride!

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Should I Volunteer to Help the Band?



Key Dates to Know for Summer and Fall:

- Alien Days Parade - Saturday, May 18th
- Starlight Parade - Saturday, June 1st
- Carlton Fun Days Parade - Saturday, June 22nd
- St. Paul Rodeo Parade - Thursday, July 4th
- Drums of Fire - Friday, July 5th
- Leadership Camp - Friday, August 2nd
- Band Camp - Monday-Thursday, August 5th -8th
- March-a-thon - Saturday, August 24th
- Marching Competition Saturday, October 5th @ Linfield College
- Marching Competition Saturday, October 12th @ Grants Pass
- Marching Competition Saturday, October 26th @ Hillsboro
- Marching Competition Saturday, November 2nd @ U of O

Check the Calendar at www.MacBand.net for the most up-to-date information on rehearsal dates, performance dates, and meetings, fundraisers, and other events.

Fair Share Fee Payment Schedule:

- Friday, June 7th - \$50 1st payment due (non-refundable)
- Friday, July 5th - \$75 2nd payment due
- Friday, August 2nd - \$75 3rd payment due
- Friday, September 6th - \$50 final payment due

Payments may be made on the MacBand.net website

If you prefer to write a check, please mail to:

McMinnville Music Boosters
 1271 NW Hwy 99W #161
 McMinnville, OR 97128

We are in the process of setting up a Charms account for the 2019-2020 school year. We'll be sending you more information when it is ready.

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