

MANSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

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Abigail Barlas
Assistant Principal

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January 23, 2020

Dear Band Family,

My name is Matt McGuire. I am the band director at Mansfield High School and the department chair for the performing arts department in Mansfield Public Schools. I am writing to you to give you some general information about our marching band program for the 2020/2021 school year. I know that it may seem early to start thinking about the next school year, but the commitment for marching band is considerable and I want to make sure that families have an opportunity to prepare and plan as much as possible..

Our marching band season begins with spring training rehearsals that will run a few weeknights per week from early May through June. This is where students will get to know the other band members, and have an opportunity to get a head start on some important skills necessary to be successful in the band program. We will largely take the rest of the summer off with the exception of some meetings with student leadership until our season officially kicks off in August. On August 13th, we will have a pre-band camp day from 11am - 4pm. Students will be fitted for uniforms, receive dot books, and have a short rehearsal to get ready for the following week. Our band camp will run from August 17th through the 22nd from 12:45pm - 9pm. We will cap off the camp with a sneak preview of our 2020 field show on the final day of band camp. We also host a BBQ during band camp week so that parents can come together and meet each other. We have other rehearsals in August before school begins. You can find our calendar at <https://mansfieldbandparents.org/calendar/> which will give you the most up to date information regarding band.

I will be hosting a meeting in the Mansfield High School auditorium on Tuesday February 25th at 7pm to discuss all of the details of the band program (including marching band) so that families can make an informed decision about involvement prior to signing up for classes.

Marching band requires a lot of dedication, but it is one of the most fulfilling experiences your child can have in high school. Regardless of your plan for marching band, if you are considering participation in band at all during the 2020/2021 school year, this meeting will be very enlightening in helping you to navigate your plans for next school year. I will also have current band students and parents on hand to answer questions from the parent and student perspective. Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions prior to this meeting. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Matt McGuire
High School Band Director/Performing Arts Department Chair
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All students, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, limited English proficiency, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or housing status, have equal access to all programs including athletics and other extracurricular activities.