

Maize High School Marching Band



Marching Band Handbook
2023-2024

**USD 266, MAIZE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MAIZE HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND
2023-2024
www.usd266.com**

EAGLE MARCHING BAND STAFF

Co-Director of Bands:
Shelby Goss
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Co-Director of Bands/Percussion Instructor:
Connor Siler
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Color Guard Coordinator:
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Assistant Percussion:
Sydney Smith

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Maize High School band is to inspire the life-long qualities of persistence and excellence—musically and beyond—in the mind, body, and spirit of everyone involved, while maintaining a positive, family-oriented, and unified atmosphere that is both challenging and supportive.

GOALS OF THE BAND AND STAFF

- Provide a safe and healthy learning environment
- Give a strong knowledge of musical concepts
- To provide students with tools that can be used in various situations in life
- Compete to the best of our ability with poise and humility no matter the outcome
- Strive to improve every day to become the best band we can be.
A high degree of music reading encompassing: rhythm, tempo, dynamics, precision, tone, and the ability to be versatile to any given musical circumstance
- Maintain pride and professionalism in the band
- Maintain a high expectation of excellence individually and as a band

FESTIVALS

Festivals and other adjudicated activities are important features of the Maize Marching Band program. It is through these activities that we obtain valuable feedback from experts in the activity about our progress as individuals and as a program. These activities allow the band members to share their marching and playing styles and innovative show ideas with bands from different towns, counties, and even states. The students have the unique opportunity to view bands of all sizes, styles, and performing levels. The MHS Marching Band will stand with pride as scores are announced and graciously accept the results, regardless of outcome. We show our respect for other ensembles and appreciate their performances. We know “winning” is the state of every individual having endured the hardships, taken the chance of competing, and having done their personal best in their own “commitment to excellence.”

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Perfect attendance at rehearsals and performances is required and considered the norm. Consistent failure to attend will result in loss of points and possible removal from the class.

Band is an academic class, and, as such, we have an extensive performance and rehearsal schedule that is part of our academic responsibility. All of the band dates we are aware of at the time of this printing are listed on the calendar. Please mark these dates on your home, school, and work calendars. School-related conflicts with marching band rehearsals or performances must be reported to Ms. Goss/Mr. Siler before September 1st. **Excused absences include serious illness, a death in the family, an important family event, or an extreme emergency. Excused performance absences must be reported prior to the event in writing whenever possible.** All other absences will be counted as UNEXCUSED, and the student will not be allowed to make up

points. Unexcused absences include: trips, work, club sports, non-school activities, etc. Excused absences will not count against the student's grade.

Students will be required to attend every performance. The band will perform at all home football games, any Pep Rallies that are scheduled during the fall, and 3-4 Marching Band Festivals in accordance to the marching band calendar. Students that fail to meet performance requirements will be placed on the sideline or removed from the program.

REHEARSAL EXPECTATIONS

Preparation

- Success is when preparation and opportunity meet!
- Check the board daily for announcements and information.
 - Have your pencil, music, and instrument at the start of class.
 - Warm-up properly.
 - Follow all written and verbal instructions.

Promptness

- BE ON TIME!
- Be in your seat before the bell rings—if you are not you will be counted tardy

Learning Environment

- Do not play or talk while the director is talking.
- Remain silent throughout the rehearsal.
- Watch the conductor or drum majors.

- Raise your hand and wait to be acknowledged before asking questions.
- Do not leave the room or field until you are dismissed.
- Students will not be allowed to have their cellphone at anytime during rehearsals in accordance to new USD266 BOE policy (medical necessity is the only exception).

Room Cleanliness

- Do not bring food, drinks, or gum into the classroom.
- Put instruments and music in the proper storage areas.
- Respect school property.
- Students are not allowed in the band office or storage room unless invited by a staff member.
- Keep stands and chairs orderly

CODE OF CONDUCT

THE USE OF TOBACCO IS PROHIBITED DURING ALL BAND REHERSALS, PERFORMANCES, TRIPS, AND EVENTS. THE USE OF DRUGS OR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OF ANY KIND WHILE REPRESENTING OUR BAND PROGRAM AND OUR SCHOOL IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED AND WILL RESULT IN IMMEDIATE EXPLUSION FROM THE BAND PROGRAM.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be at least 5-10 minutes early for all rehearsals and performances. • Be on your best behavior at all times. You never know who is watching or listening. • Work to improve yourself every day! | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strive to do your best 100% of the time. • Respect others and your surroundings. • Assume responsibility for your actions. • Don't fall behind in class or in practicing. It is your responsibility to keep up and |
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maintain academic eligibility. Students failing to meet academic eligibility requirements will not be allowed to perform.

- Make independent practice a part of your daily routine.

- If you have a problem you cannot resolve on your own, please see Ms. Goss or Mr. Siler

Students must wear closed-toe shoes and socks for rehearsal – NO SANDALS. Bring an extra pair of shoes in the event that your shoes get wet or muddy. Students wishing to wear different clothes for rehearsal must change in the school restrooms on their own time. They will not be allowed to change in the band room, practice rooms, or storage room

Football Game Procedures

All students are required and expected to attend all home and play off football games. Students must report at the designated time to dress in uniform. The following clothing items will be needed on game day:

- Band t-shirt
- Shorts/jeans
- Marching Shoes
- Marching Band Jacket
- Black Socks
- Compression shorts/tank tops

The marching uniforms are fitted and will not look uniform if students wear band t-shirts and regular shorts under them. Students will need tight fitting clothing to wear under the uniform during performances. All compression shorts and tank tops must be covering of all private parts. **NO UNDERWEAR OR BRAS WILL BE ALLOWED.**

- Students must put on their uniform in the proper dressing area
 - Girls-choir room
 - Boys- band room
- Girls may NOT enter the band room for any reason until asked to do so by a director
- No food or drink in the stands with the exception of 3rd quarter break
- NO CELL PHONES
- Students must pay attention to the game as we will play at any opportunity
- If you need an alternate dressing place, please let Ms. Goss or Mr. Siler know.

EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORM

Our equipment and uniforms represent a large investment on the part of the Maize Marching Band. It is everyone's responsibility to see that they receive proper care. Instruments, equipment, and uniforms will be issued to individual students who are expected to care for them as if they were their own. Instruments will be issued and returned in good playing condition. **Any instrument rented from the school is subject to a \$100 instrument rental fee PER INSTRUMENT with accordance to district policy.** No one may play another person's instrument without permission. Instruments are to be properly cased and stored when not in use. Anyone who damages equipment through carelessness or neglect will be required to pay for its repair.

Cleaning Kits – All students playing wind instruments should have a cleaning kit for their instrument. Kits can be purchased at any areas music store for \$20-30.

Reeds – Reed players should have at least one box of reeds. Clarinets no softer than hard or 3½ - 4½. Saxophones no softer than medium hard or 3

Instrument Tag – Please mark instrument cases with some kind of tag. Since many cases look alike, it is easy for students to take the wrong instrument by mistake.

Combination Lock – Students will be given a band locker, but must bring their own combination lock. The lockers are for band equipment and music only. **BAND LOCKERS ARE PROPERTY OF MAIZE HIGH SCHOOL AND ARE SUBJECT TO SEARCH AT ANY TIME. ASSESSMENTS**

Lyre and Flip Folder – All students are required to purchase a lyre and flip folder for pep band. They can be purchased at any area music store.

Pencil – All students should have a pencil in their instrument case for band.

Each student will be fitted for their marching uniform during band camp. Uniforms will be checked in and out before and after each performance. It is the responsibility of the student to keep the uniform clean throughout the season. Uniforms are dry clean only and CANNOT be put in a washing machine. Uniforms should be put away properly after each performance. **If any uniform becomes lost or damaged, the student will be responsible for replacing it.** All students in marching band are required to purchase specific marching shoes. Marching shoes can be ordered and purchased during the first week of school. Shoes are \$50.

PERCUSSION/DRUMLINE

Drumline is by audition only. All drumline members must be good standing in the band program. Drumline will have rehearsals Monday-Thursday 6am-7:30am unless otherwise scheduled by Mr. Siler. Pit will rehearse as requested by Mr. Siler and Ms. Smith. All percussionists will be subject to the \$100 district instrument rental fee to replace broken equipment, mallets, and drum heads.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Drum majors are chosen through auditions each spring. They will lead the band during marching and pep band seasons, and should be treated as an extension of the director. Drum majors will be held to a higher standard of conduct, and any actions that are negative, counterproductive, or contrary to the philosophy of the director are grounds for dismissal. Students must be incoming juniors or seniors and enrolled in four quarters of band in order to audition.

Section leaders are chosen through auditions each spring. They will oversee the behavior and performance of their section during the marching band season. Section leaders will be held to a higher standard of conduct, and any actions that are negative, counterproductive, or contrary to the

philosophy of the director are grounds for dismissal. Students must be incoming sophomores, juniors or seniors and enrolled in four quarters of band in order to audition.

BAND BOOSTERS

The Maize Band Boosters is a volunteer parent organization with the purpose of supporting the Maize High School band programs, which include Marching Band, Color Guard, and Concert Bands. It takes a great deal of organization each year to meet all the needs of the program. Currently, the Maize Band Booster organization operates with a structure of officers and specific-purpose committees. The officers make up the Executive Committee and work directly with the Band Director to accomplish the stated purposes of the Band Booster organization.

All parents of a MHS band student are part of the Band Boosters and are an integral component to the success of the band program. As a parent of a Maize High School band student, you have a unique opportunity to be involved in the organization. There is always plenty of room for families to support the band through volunteering to serve on a committee. Throughout the year, we need help at events, providing food donations, chaperoning trips, etc. Your time and dedication to the MHS Band are appreciated!

Any adult interested in supporting the Maize High School Band Programs is eligible for membership in the organization including grandparents and business owners.

The MHS Band Boosters holds a regular meeting in the Maize High School band room to answer parent questions regarding the band program.

Handbook Return Form Due Aug 25

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSckCU2jg1DH77YZ7hg7PavQ3Sd5s4Q4E22xl-XNJrF8ehAA/viewform?usp=sf_link