

AHS Marching Band Information

2020

Parents, guardians, and students! The following handout contains all the information you will need in regards to the 2020 Allendale High School Marching Season. In order to participate during the season, please note that all dates ranging from pre-camp, band camp, Monday Nights, and competition dates are REQUIRED. Any conflicts need to be brought to my attention as soon as possible, and at least 2 -3 weeks in advance. You cannot miss camp as it will put your student VERY far behind in learning the show for the year.

Pre-camp and Band Camp

There's a big change coming to band camp this year! For both Pre-Camp and Band Camp, we will be on Allendale Campus. This was a decision that I took into consideration for months, and due to numerous reasons, felt it was the right decision for our group. Due to changes in management at the campground, current world events, and economic reasons, I felt it necessary to make the change. With this being a Disney Trip year, I wanted to find a way to make the season more accessible, and with the shift to Allendale it will knock band camp cost down to just \$175 this year per student. That cost covers the staff that we are bringing on for the season, investments like music arrangement and drill for the show, and food services through both weeks. There are scholarship opportunities to help with cost through our music boosters. Another thing to note, we will be at

Allendale Middle School for BOTH weeks. There are numerous renovations happening at the high school that prevent us from utilizing that space. I have been working closely with Mr. Torno who is the head of our campus facilities to make sure we can make this work and make sure we have the best experience possible.

Pre-Camp week is July 27 - 31, 9 am - 3 pm

The first day of pre-camp is just section leaders and freshmen/incoming members. Attendance is required from the rest of the ensemble the other four days of the week. Pre-camp is a chance for us to teach or re-learn the marching fundamentals, and get a huge head start on the music for the year.

Band Camp week is August 3 - 7, 9 am - 9 pm

Attendance is required every single day of camp, just as if we were going away for the week, and there will be penalties in regards to your student's participation in the season if they fail to make it to band camp days. Just because you are sleeping at home does not excuse you to be late. Early is on time, on time is late. This week is absolutely essential for us to start learning the show for the season. Every night after we are done with rehearsal, there will be bonding activities that will go to around **10 or 10:30 pm** for all marching band students to partake in. These are wonderful bonding opportunities that are HIGHLY encouraged. This is where our "band family" bonding takes place.

Monday Night Rehearsals

After the week of band camp, for the rest of the fall season, we will have rehearsals from **6 pm - 9 pm** every Monday night. Like any other athletic

activity, in order for us to be competitive we need to have additional practices. Just like any other date, if a conflict arises I need to know at least 2 weeks in advance. Athletic conflicts, family events, etc., I need to know about. For all athletics in the fall, I coordinate with the coaches to avoid as many conflicts as possible. If you have a game on a Monday night, I expect you to go to your game. I'm reasonable and flexible, students should not be limited to one kind of experience in high school.

Saturday Competitions

However, with that flexibility, I in turn expect you to make every Saturday competition date work, even if you have an athletic event earlier or later in the day. As a cross country runner myself in High School, you can do both, it'll just take a little more work. For competitions, we need 100% attendance so we have the full force of our group. Unlike festivals for concert band, we are actually competing for placement, not just a rating. Even missing one person drastically can affect how the show works, can cause forms to look "off", and hurt the band's sound. Now compound that when five or six people have to miss. We have holes all over the place in the show, physically and musically. These dates are essential, and count as your student's test grades for the class. Missing results in a zero for that test grade. However, if an emergency arises I'm willing to work with you because I know life happens, and we will find an alternative way to get a grade in there. Otherwise, you must be in attendance for competitions. (Dates are in the calendar section).

Football Games

We are also a huge part of the atmosphere for Friday Night football at AHS! These are also required, but have more flexibility akin to Monday Night Rehearsals, as long as I am in the loop 2 weeks prior to any schedule conflicts. Call time for every football game will be **5:30 pm**, and depending on the pace of the game, we will be done anywhere from 9:30 - 10:30 that night. Kickoff is at 7 pm for any parents wanting to come watch the team, and cheer the band on at halftime. (Dates for these in the calendar section)

Disney Trip

THIS YEAR IS A DISNEY TRIP YEAR! More explicit details on things like costs are coming soon, but obviously all trip planning is in flux with the Covid-19 situation. We are **STILL PLANNING** for the trip. Dates for the trip are also in the calendar section. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** To be eligible for the Disney trip you must not only be in the marching band, but enrolled in the band for the entire year. No exceptions to this.

This covers all of the big information you need for the coming 2020 season. More specific information will come as we get closer to the dates for all events. This year's show theme revolves around the music of Motown! We are so excited to have more details soon, and we are so pumped to highlight this unique moment of music history that was born right here in Michigan! The last page of this hand out is all dates for the 2020 marching season. I am happy to answer any questions through email at

grantden@psfalcons.net

Thank you!

Mr. Grant

AHS Marching Band Calendar 2020-2021

- 4th of July parade for all current members. July 4th, AHS, time TBD
- Pre-Camp week: July 27 - 31, 9 am - 3pm @ AMS
- Band Camp week: Aug 3 - 7, 9 am - 9 pm @ AMS
- Monday Night Rehearsals start, August 10, 6 - 9pm @ AHS
- Football vs. Greenville: August 27, 5:30 pm @ AHS
- Football vs. Holland Christian: September 18, 5:30 pm @ AHS
- Kenowa Hills Knight Time Classic: September 19, TBD @ AHS
- Grand Haven Marching Competition: September 26, TBD @ AHS
- Football vs. Spring Lake: October 9, 5:30 pm @ AHS
- Allendale Falcon Marching Invitational, October 17 @ AHS, all day
- Football vs. Unity Christian, October 23, 5:30 pm @ AHS
- Jenison Marching Invitational: October 25, TBD @ AHS