



Dear Batavia Band Parents & Students:

We are excited to extend an invitation to your son/daughter to participate in the 2017-2018 Marching Band season! Marching Band is an extra-curricular activity at Batavia High School that rehearses after school and performs at several local parades, competitions, and all home football games. **Past Marching Band trips have included: Cedar Point Amusement Park (2013, 2009), Walt Disney World (2012) the Chik-Fil-A Bowl (2010), and Hawaii/Pearl Harbor (2016).**

Why Should I Join Marching Band?

- **Social:** You get to meet life-long friends of all ages. Freshman will enter high school knowing over 100 band members before the first day of classes.
- **Visibility:** We are the largest organization at Batavia High School and one of the most visible.
- **Travel:** In the past we've performed at Cedar Point (2009), the Chik-fil-A Bowl (2010) and Walt Disney World (2012).
- **Physicality:** Marching Band will keep you in shape. Studies have proven that students that perform in marching band do so at the same rate as a typical high school athlete.
- **Musicianship:** Those involved in Marching Band will be playing their instruments more often and will improve their technique and endurance.
- **Competition:** When done in a healthy way, competition is great for improvement and goal setting.
- **Time Management:** Marching Band is a lot of time, but it also forces you to plan wisely.
- **College:** Colleges like to see students who are involved both in academic and athletic or musical activities because it makes you better-rounded.
- **Teamwork:** Marching Band will teach life skills needed for the real world including how to work well with others.
- **Community:** We play at several parades, community events, and athletic events that contribute directly to the Batavia School spirit.
- **FUN!!!**

Can I Do Marching Band and other activities/sports/groups?

- If you are in Marching Band, students are expected to be at 100% of rehearsals and performances. A student cannot participate in another group with an overlapping schedule (athletics, other co-curricular music groups).

What Can Parents Do to Help?

- In order for our Marching Band to be successful, we need TONS of parental involvement. The Music Buffs, our parental support group, is a wonderful organization to be a part of. Through Music Buffs we have spots available for uniform help, chaperoning band trips, fundraising, prop building, pit crew, and much more.

If you are interested in joining us for the 2017-2018 Season, please take a look at our calendar. We learn the majority of our competition show during the July-August Band Camp, so the best time to schedule summer vacations would be June or early July. Also, please check out our website at www.bataviamusic.org for any important announcements, forms, and updates.

We hope to see all of you next fall!

Chris Owen
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(630) 937-8640

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2017-2018 Tentative Batavia Marching Band Schedule

This is a tentative schedule and may be subject to change. All finalized dates are mandatory

- **BMB Leadership Interviews:**
Thursday, January 19nd 3:00 -6:00 PM
- **BHS \$400.00 Co-Curricular Fee & Commitment Form Due:**
By Spring Break to BHS Band Office
- **Student & Parent Meeting:**
Monday, May 8th 7:00 PM, Band Room
This is the final day to withdraw from Marching Band with no financial penalty.
- **New Member Camp/Marching Leaders ONLY**
Monday, July 24th Time TBD*
- **Summer Band Camp:**
July 25th-July 28th - 1:00 - 9:00 PM
July 31st-August 5th - 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
August 7th-10th 1:00 - 9:00 PM
- **Corn Boil:**
TBD
- **Marching Band Weekly Rehearsals:**
Rehearsals will start the week of August 14th (the first week of school)
Mondays: Drum Line and Guard rehearsal, times TBD
Mondays: Winds Rehearsal 3:00-5:00 PM
Tuesdays: Full Ensemble 3:00-5:30 PM*
Thursdays: Full Ensemble 3:00-5:30 PM*
***One of the rehearsals during the week will be in the evening per week. This schedule will be released by May.**
- **Marching Band Competitions & Sat. Rehearsals:** (call times are TBD and will be posted when available)
Saturday, August 19th Band Rehearsal 9:00-5:00 PM
Saturday, August 26th Band Rehearsal 9:00-5:00 PM
Saturday, September 2nd Band Rehearsal 9:00-5:00 PM
Saturday, September 9th Lake Park Competition, ALL DAY
Saturday, September 16th Band Rehearsal 9:00-5:00 PM
Saturday, September 23rd Band Rehearsal 9:00-5:00 PM
Saturday, September 30th Northern IL University Competition, ALL DAY
Saturday, October 14th ISU Marching Band Championships, ALL DAY
Friday, October 20th/Saturday October 21st - Bands of America Competition, Indianapolis Super-Regional Competition
- **Home Football Games:** (call times are always 5:30 PM in uniform)
August 25th - TBD (vs. Belleville West)
September 1st - TBD (vs. Libertyville)
September 8th - TBD (vs. Elgin)
September 29th - TBD (vs. St. Charles East)
October 6th - Homecoming/Senior Night (vs. South Elgin)
November*: *All students are required to perform at all home playoff football games.*
- **Marching Band Banquet:**
Wednesday, October 25th 5:30 PM, BHS Cafeteria
- **Additional Fundraisers/Parades:**
BHS Homecoming Parade, October 4th 5:00 PM staging

2017-2018 Batavia Marching Band

Student Policies and Expectations

ATTENDANCE POLICY

- All students are expected to be at every rehearsal for their ensemble and any combined rehearsals.
- Students may only be excused from a rehearsal or performance if the conflict is listed on the Commitment Contract on p.5 and **approved by the director**.
- Emergency absences due to illness or other emergencies should be reported to the director as soon as possible to avoid potential misunderstandings (phone call or e-mail the day of the absence).
- If a student is more than 10 minutes late, unexcused, to a rehearsal, it will be counted as an absence. Excused tardiness or absences due to a school-sponsored event will be considered but prior communication with the director is necessary in these cases.
- After 1 unexcused absence from a rehearsal, the student's role in the group may be altered by the director or the student may be suspended from the group. This is at the discretion of the director.
- Any more than 2 unexcused absences from rehearsals may result in probation from the next performance or dismissal from the group. The student will become an alternate and will only perform in the case that another student is absent or a spot needs to be filled.
- After 1 unexcused absence from a performance, that student is dismissed.
- Consistent absences will result in dismissal from the ensemble. This is at the discretion of the director.
- Rehearsals, Camps, Field Trips, Performances, Playoff Football Games, or any other event scheduled by the director are considered mandatory unless otherwise stated.
- Work or school-work does not count as an excused absence.
- Once a student has committed to the group via the Commitment Contract, they may not withdraw from the group and join another school-sponsored group. This includes other music co-curriculars, athletics, or clubs. They must finish the season with the group they began with. If a student joins two groups (if the schedule and director allows), they must finish both seasons and are not permitted to withdraw from only one.

REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS

- Ensemble members are expected to arrive at rehearsals on time and with their music prepared when directed to do so.
- Students must respect other people and their property and maintain a positive attitude.
- Periodic deadlines will be given to have music and drill learned and memorized. Failure to meet these deadlines may result in suspension or dismissal from the ensemble.
- All students are expected to assist in the set-up and clean-up for the performances. Students may not leave after any performance until they have checked out with the director.
- Re-admittance into the group in the future, following dismissal or leave, will be at the director's discretion.

COMPETITION EXPECTATIONS

- Competition days are an all-day commitment. We will travel together by bus and arrive early enough for set up and preparation. After the performance, we will stay and support the other marching bands in attendance. This will include the awards presentation and possibly a performance in the evening finals (if applicable).
- We attend competitions to watch other groups in addition to performing ourselves. The students represent Batavia High School and the community at all times, not just during the performance. Students are expected to be organized, well-mannered, well-groomed, and polite for the duration of the contest.
- All expenses incurred during the competition, such as meals, are the responsibility of the participants.

EXTRACURRICULAR FEES

- Students are expected to pay the \$135 BHS Extracurricular Fee in order to participate. This fee will be assessed in PowerSchool by Batavia High School at the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year. Students need not pay the fee during the current school year.
- There is a Co-Curricular Fee for marching band of \$400. This check should be made out to Batavia High School and is due **by May**. This fee can be fully reimbursed if your child decides not to participate in marching band up until the Student/Parent Meeting on May 8th, 2017. This fee will cover additional costs for:
 - Show Design
 - Staff
 - Equipment
 - Uniform parts
 - Props
 - Food (lunch or dinner) provided for students at all competitions.
- Flexible payment plans may be arranged to spread the fee over a longer time period. Please contact the Directors to ask about payment options.
- Fund-raising opportunities are available through the Music Buffs during the school year and students can pay for the \$400 fee with their music account balances from fundraising.
- The increase of \$50 per student from last year will help offset the costs of attending the BOA Regional in Indianapolis, IN.
- Once paid fees are non-refundable after May 8th, 2017.

All policies and their administration are at the discretion of the Directors. These policies are reviewed annually and are non-negotiable for the co-curricular music groups at Batavia High School.

If you have any questions about the above guidelines, or would like to submit an item to be added to the annual policy review for the following year, please contact Sara Thomas at (630) 937-8925 or sara.thomas@bps101.net before committing to the program.

2017-2018 BMB Commitment Contract & Payment Information

Please sign and detach this page. Include any payment information below.

Date: _____

I have read and understand the student expectations and calendar. I agree to adhere to the expectations and commitments of the ensemble, and understand the consequences if they are not followed.

Printed Student Name: _____

Printed Student Instrument: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

- Conflict(s) that a student would require and excused absence:

Director's Signature for conflict approval: _____ Date: _____

Payment Information:

____ I am paying the \$400 Co-Curricular fee in full today. Check Number _____.

____ I am paying a \$100 deposit for the Co-Curricular fee and am interested in a payment plan for the balance. Check Number _____. Please send me more information about a payment plan.

Optional:

____ I am interested in donating extra monies to help students that cannot pay for the entire marching band fees. Donation is enclosed. Amount of donation \$_____.