



Warrior Run Marching Defenders

Frequently Asked Questions

Joining a new activity can sometimes come with a lot of questions. Hopefully this sheet will answer some of those. If you have additional questions, please don't

Can I participate in fall sports and marching band at the same time?

Yes! Of course you can! We have had football players, cross country runners, soccer players, and many other athletes in the band! We enjoy having students in both band and sports and I take great pride in having a well-rounded group of individuals in the band.

Keep in mind that participating in both sports and band demands an open line of communication with both the marching band director and your sports coach, but everyone is willing to work with you if you let us know with enough time in advance. It makes it hard for us to work with you if you wait until the last minutes to let us know of a conflict.

What sort of time commitment can I anticipate making to marching

Marching band does require a time commitment, but it is well worth it.

Summer Schedule- We have a few parades that we attend, and in August we have 7 days of band camp spread out over two weeks. This is where the majority of our work is done to learn the show and prepare for the fall season.

Fall Schedule- We have regular rehearsals every Wednesday from 6-8:30pm (times are eased as we get later into the season). We perform at every football game on Friday night. We also attend a few parades and a showcase with the Susquehanna Valley Bands.

What if I don't know how to march?

No experience? No problem!

We will teach you every step of the way! The first day of band camp is designed for you all who have never marched before to get the basics down. This is where we teach the fundamental building blocks of how to march. Upperclassmen will also help out and teach you as well!

Will I need to buy anything with I join?

There are a few things that need to be purchased when you join marching band, but the good news is that once you've purchased them you will not need to buy them again unless you outgrow the item. There is a trading process to get a new/gently used item in your size if you outgrow something, and we also have a system in place too for reduced price items for families that may struggle financially so that everyone can participate.

Below is the list of items needed. Items that are starred are purchased through the school after band camp.

All band members will need the following items:

- *Marching Band Polo, approx. \$30
- * Dinkles (marching shoes), approx. \$25-30
- *Marching Band Show Shirt, worn under uniforms, approx. \$12-15
- Khaki Shorts & Khaki Pants, bought from any store

In addition to the items listed above, Color Guard will also need:

- *A Warm-up Suit, gives us a uniform look and keeps the students warm, approx. \$50-60

Other costs for all members:

- Meals, approx. \$25
- Uniform Dry Cleaning, \$20

The money aspect can be daunting when it's all laid out but we do not want anyone to be discouraged from joining the activity. We have payment plans available if needed. Please just talk to me if you have any questions! All conversations regarding finances are kept strictly confidential.

Where do band parents get information about upcoming events?

Email addresses are collected for all band parents and every week I send out a "Marching Band Update" with important information about the week and future dates for rehearsals and parades.

We also have a band program website: <https://wrbands.weebly.com>
You can also check out that page for marching band information.

How can band parents get involved?

There are many opportunities to get involved with the marching band to become a part of the “Marching Band Road Crew (aka. Band Parents)”.

Here are a few ways: (jobs that require clearances are starred)

- Drive the truck and trailer to away games and parades*
- Volunteer in the concession stand
- Concession stand food pick-up and drop-off
- Pit Crew (assist the pit onto and off of the field)*
- Parade Walkers*
- Donations throughout the season
- Serve as an officer with the Warrior Run Band Parents Association (WRBPA)

Those are just a few of the ways you can be involved as a band parent. You will need to have your current clearances turned in to the school and be approved as a volunteer with the school board before you may begin. More information can be provided to you if necessary.

We need your help to make the marching band run smoothly! Myself and the kids really appreciate all of the help and support.

If you have any additional questions, please don't hesitate to email me, Ms. Rhodes, at trhodes@wrsd.org. I'm happy to answer any questions that you may have!