



Ryan Borger, Band Director
www.cambridgeband.org

MARCHING BAND HANDBOOK ADDENDUM

TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

1. The marching band will have numerous travel opportunities outside of just away games and local contests. The Cambridge Bands have performed in Alabama, Florida, Ohio, and London, England! Travel opportunities will incur additional expenses – communicating concerns may allow the band boosters to provide financial support.
2. When the band travels, our Travel Policy is in place. All county policies will be followed and the highest level of courtesy and behavior is expected of all members of the Cambridge Bands. When we travel, we represent our band, our school, our state, and YOUR families.

BAND LETTER AND PE CREDIT

1. Beginning in 2015, participation in the marching band at Cambridge High School can earn a Physical Education credit towards graduation requirements. The expectation for earning a PE credit is the same as lettering in marching band. As everyone is a starter in this physical and musical activity, everyone with exemplary attendance will letter and earn a PE credit. Exemplary attendance is defined by no more than 1 unexcused absence.
2. Each unexcused absence will cause the student to forfeit the privilege of performing with the band during the following halftime performance. The second unexcused absence will forfeit a letter in band and PE credit for that semester as well. Any additional unexcused absences may require a parent conference to assess continued participation.

ZERO-TOLERANCE POLICY

1. The Cambridge Band Program operates with a zero-tolerance policy towards drugs and alcohol that mirrors the county and school policy. The following is copied directly from the Fulton County Student Code of Conduct – please see that document for further elaboration.
 - a. Students shall not possess, consume, receive, purchase, transmit, store, or be under any degree of influence of alcoholic beverages and/or illegal drugs or any other substance listed under the Georgia Controlled Substances Act or any substance believed by the student to be alcohol or an illegal drug. Legal intoxication is not required for violation of this rule. Students shall also not possess, transmit, store, buy, sell, or otherwise distribute or possess with intent to sell, or otherwise distribute any alcohol, drugs, or drug-related paraphernalia.
2. Any student found in violation of this policy will be subject to the appropriate school disciplinary measures and may result in removal from the Cambridge Band Program.

CONTEST PROCEDURES

1. Most contest procedures mirror the game-day procedures in expectations.
2. Typically the band will rehearse for 3 hours prior to a meal/load and departure times. It is typical for color guard and percussion to meet earlier than winds – they often have more to prepare for a competition day.
3. Detailed schedules for competitions will be released to parents in the weekly Monday email as soon as they are available. This is typically the week of the event or possibly two weeks in advance. Our competition calendar can be found online and is set in the Spring prior to the season.
4. Our attendance expectations apply to Saturday contests as well – please communicate conflicts as early as possible – everyone is a starter in marching band and we accomplish our goals together.

GAME-DAY PROCEDURES

1. All band instruments, uniforms and equipment must be cleaned, polished, and “ready to go” for inspection.
2. No band member is permitted to leave the organization in advance of group dismissal at any time, unless excused by the director, in which case a note from the parents is required.
3. While seated in the stadium, only band members are allowed in the ranks, and the band will always sit in assigned sections and seats.
4. Students will use restrooms in groups and take 3rd quarter break as a group – with a chaperone.
5. In order to move in an organized fashion, we must be able to give instructions in a rapid manner. Please be attentive and follow instructions from chaperones/directors/leadership the first time given.
6. We will play only as a group while in the stands. Solo performance is strictly forbidden, as is playing while walking to or from a rehearsal/performance. Any section cheers or selections must be rehearsed by the section leader and approved by the directors prior to public performance.
7. No inappropriate cheers are ever allowed.
8. Band members should avoid jumping as the team scores, as this type of enthusiasm may result in damage to an instrument, our best support to our team comes from being prepared to play.
9. The band will march to the stadium and back from the stadium. Once we have returned to the courtyard, students will be formally dismissed by the drum majors. Students will be dismissed from the bus by a director upon return from an away game or contest.
10. All performances are mandatory. If you are unable to attend a performance, you must provide written explanation in advance (at least two weeks). Personal illness, death in the family, weddings and religious holidays are usually the only excuses for missing a rehearsal or performance.

STANDARD FRIDAY SCHEDULE

- 3:30 Dismissal Bell Rings
Marching Band Members change into performance attire as posted on white board
- 3:45 ALL Band Members Report to section leaders in band room or designated area
- 4:25 ALL Band Members will meet in band room and await dismissal to dinner in the café
- 4:30 DINNER
- 5:30 Prepare for performance with uniforms and equipment
- 5:45 Section Leader Inspection and final section time
- 6:00 COURTYARD FOR FINAL FRIDAY RUN-THROUGH
- 6:30 SET BLOCK IN BUS LANES and MARCH TO STADIUM
- 6:45 Water Break in Stadium
- 7:00 Set for Pre-game
- 7:10 PREGAME PERFORMANCE
- 3rd Q Off for social time with visiting band – you may visit our concessions ☺
- End See #2 and #9 above – thank you!