



Wilde Lake High School Marching Band

2019-2020 School Year

Dear Wilde Lake Marching Band Families,

Welcome to an amazing year of music at Wilde Lake High School! This marching band season is bound to be epic as we debut our beautiful brand new marching band uniforms, as well as perform our first “themed” marching band show! This letter will provide you with all the information you need to know about marching band this fall.

Marching Band

Marching Band is a co-curricular requirement of the wind ensemble course. That’s why in the HCPSS course catalog the class is listed as “Wind Ensemble/Marching Band.” Everyone in the ensemble is required to participate as part of his or her grade.

Marching band is a fun, team-building activity that requires a lot of hard work and concentration. Even if you think marching band isn’t for you, keep an open mind. For many WLHS students, marching band is their favorite activity of the year. And, most of all, don’t be nervous about learning to march! We have outstanding student leaders that will teach you everything you need to know. They’re patient, kind, and really the best at what they do. Relax... we’ve got you covered.

Band Camp

Marching band requires a lot of preparation and in order to put on the best show possible, we have band camp for the last two weeks of the summer (Percussion and Leadership meet earlier). All students are required to attend the entire camp. On the last day of Band Camp, Thursday, August 29th, we will perform at the annual Back to Band Night.

August 14th-16th (Wednesday-Friday)	Percussion and Leadership Camp All playing marching percussion including keyboards/pit <i>must</i> attend! Student Leadership Team <i>must</i> attend!	9:30 am – 12:30 pm, LUNCH 1:30 – 3:30 pm
August (Monday-Friday) 19th, 20th, 21st, 23rd 26th, 27th, 29th	WLHS Marching Band Camp All members of the 2019-2020 WLHS Marching Band including <i>must</i> attend!	9:30 am – 1:30 pm, LUNCH 2:30 -3:30pm
August 22nd and 28th	Band Camp must be cancelled on both days due to Countywide Professional Development	
Thursday, August 29th	BACK TO BAND NIGHT You will also get gloves, t-shirts, bow ties and anything else you need for the year. You will also be able to purchase our awesome band spirit wear!	6:30 PM (in the Cafeteria)

*** Rehearsal starts and attendance is taken at 9:30AM. You'll need to arrive at 9:15AM to give yourself time to unpack and get ready for rehearsal. If you aren't ready to go at 9:30, you're late.**

Game Days

The Marching Band performs at all home football games and marches in the Homecoming Parade. When we're not marching during halftime, we're playing in the stands as a pep band. We do not "officially" play at away games, however, students may decide to form a pep band that travels to those games. Pep Band is **OPTIONAL**, but many students love it!! We will also perform at the Howard County Marching Band Showcase on **Tuesday, October 22nd**. I will release that information as soon as it becomes available.

Attendance is taken at 5:45 PM on game days. Games and clean-up typically take between 2 and 2.5 hours.

Performance Dates

2019-2020 Marching Band Performance Schedule

			Rehearsal	Game
September 5th	Thursday	Back to School Night@ WILDE LAKE	5:30 PM	6:00 PM
September 6th	Friday	Oakdale @ WILDE LAKE	2:15 PM	7:00 PM
September 14th	Saturday	Wilde Lake Family Picnic	TBD	11:00 AM
September 21st	Saturday	Atholton @ WILDE LAKE Homecoming	9:00 AM	11:00 AM:Parade 1:00 PM: Game
October 4th	Friday	River Hill @ WILDE LAKE	2:15 PM	7:00 PM
October 11th	Friday	Howard @ WILDE LAKE WL Future Musicians Night	2:15 PM	7:00 PM
October 22nd	Tuesday	Howard County Marching Band Showcase @ Hammond HS	TBD	TBD
November 1st	Friday	Oakland Mills @ WILDE LAKE	2:15 PM	7:00 PM

* In the event the WLHS Football Team qualifies for the Playoffs, there is a possibility of added home games. This will result in additional performances.

Attendance Policy

If you're not sick, tending to a family emergency, or participating in a school athletic event pre-approved by the director, you're expected to be there. Band camp, football games, and the Marching Showcase are required. An unexcused absence from band camp will jeopardize your enrollment in wind ensemble. An unexcused absence from a football game is the same as missing a concert.

This may seem a little strict, but marching band is an activity that really requires everyone there at all times. Here's some more information regarding unexcused and excused absences:

Unexcused Absences include, but are not limited to:

- Work
- Non- School Athletics
- Internships
- Homework (this requires time management on your part)
- Family Vacation
- Private Lessons

Excused Absences:

- Illness (parent note required)
- School Athletics. This is managed between you, the band director, and your coach.
- Family Emergency

Tardiness:

- Attendance is taken at 9:30AM.
- Be safe...arrive early. Make arrangements for carpooling, if necessary.

Conflicts

A performing ensemble is a collective endeavor; therefore we need everyone to be present at all rehearsals and performances. Unlike other classes in which one's presence affects only him/herself, attendance profoundly affects the entire musical group. For this reason, attendance at ALL rehearsals and performances is EXPECTED. With this in mind, we understand that extraordinary circumstances exist and must be taken into account, and also respect the value of a previous commitment. Conflicts should be communicated to the Band Director (in writing to Saul_Green@hcpss.org) Most conflicts can be mutually resolved if communication is open, timely, and considers the importance of every student to the success of the team.

Sports

The WLHS Marching Band is comprised of many JV and Varsity (including starters) student athletes. Many of these students are all county members and team captains. This is possible due to our rehearsal schedule, as well as the relationships we have established with coaches. Please let me know if you have any questions about playing a fall sport during Marching Band season.

All sports related schedule conflicts need to be communicated through this google form: <https://www.wlhsband.com/sports-conflict-form>

What to bring for camp

- **Comfortable clothing:** We will be outside most of the day, so dress accordingly while complying with the WLHS dress code.
- **Sneakers or athletic shoes:** Flip-flops, sandals, etc. are not comfortable or safe for marching. You **MUST** wear closed toed shoes for all rehearsals.
- **Lunch:** Students will have an hour time block for lunch on their own.
- **Instrument and music:** Students will be provided with a folder to help organize music.
- **Reusable Water Bottle:** Let's be environmentally friendly while we stay hydrated.
- **Sunscreen and Hat:** It will be hot in the sun....Don't worry we will take plenty of breaks.

Music Memorization

The following halftime show pieces should be memorized when you arrive the first day:

Bye Bye Bye
Bad Romance
After the Love Is Gone
I Want You Back
National Anthem

*Grades will be penalized if music is not learned and/ or memorized

Music Lyres

Each student must have a instrument lyre (percussionists don't use them) before the first day of camp. The lyre holds your pep band folder on your instrument so you can read your music without a music stand. Lyres are available online or at your local music store. Sometimes they need to be special ordered, so don't wait until a few days before camp to order. Music and Arts is the closest place to purchase a lyre.

*Some lyre info: flutes will want to opt for the DEG "Flutist's Friend," and Mellophones should purchase a trumpet lyre. If you need help picking a lyre, don't hesitate to contact me.

WLHS Band Boosters

Nothing would be possible without the support from the WLHS Band Boosters! Please consider getting involved with this amazing organization. If interested, please contact our Booster President, Mrs. Susan Knoernschild.

Here is her email address: Knoernschilds@gmail.com.

Website

Please check our WLHS Band Website for important announcements, reference recordings, sports conflict forms, and general program information.

Here a link to the website: <https://www.wlhsband.com>

What Next?

Mark all the dates on your calendar! Time management is one of the most challenging tasks you'll face in high school, so get started on the right foot.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at (410) 772- 1218, the band office at Wilde Lake, or email me at Saul_Green@hcpss.org. Please leave a message and I will promptly return your call.

Follow us on Instagram [@greenandgoldgreen](https://www.instagram.com/greenandgoldgreen)

Follow us on Twitter [@WLHS_Band](https://twitter.com/WLHS_Band)

I'm really looking forward to a tremendous marching season!

Best,
Saul Green