

CUMBERLAND BANDS: MARCHING BAND

---

Co-Curricular Activity Information

***Marching Band***

## Marching Band - 2021

**T**he 2021 edition of the Cumberland Marching Band is ready to get underway. As the staff prepares for the fall season, it is important we have an accurate count of who is participating. The high school band welcomes all returning members and rising 7<sup>th</sup> grade band members into the marching band on a voluntary basis.

Participation in Cumberland's award-winning marching band is an opportunity to become involved in one of the school's newest and most active extra-curricular activities. The band performs at parades, football games, community events, and band competitions.

This year we are planning a full marching season. The show is designed only for the students who commit. Once you commit, a marching band show will be written with you in it; therefore, **DO NOT COMMIT UNLESS YOU ARE SURE**. If you back out after committing, then I'll have to rewrite the whole show. You may not get two opportunities to back out once you commit, so please take your commitment seriously.

There is a small financial commitment. Your child will need marching shoes if he/she doesn't already have them (I will send purchase details later). They run around \$40. Every child will need to have either money for concessions on the trips or will need to bring food for meals. If money is an issue, then please speak to me directly.

Students will not be excluded from marching band because of financial need. It is incumbent upon each parent to make contact with the director in the event of difficulty, as tailored payment plans and a booster support fund is available on a confidential basis.

Attached is a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page to aid new parents and students in transition to this new high school marching band program. We also have a Web site full of information that is constantly updated with the latest news and events: <http://Cumberland.band>. On this site is the Remind.com band newsletter subscription box. We recommend that you submit your email address so you can get important Cumberland Bands information right into your phone or email! The list is private and will not be used for anything else.

By filling out the attached form you are giving your reasonable assurance that the listed student is planning to march. Although things come up that we cannot foresee, completing this form indicates to the staff that the listed student's plan is to participate. In addition to providing information about marching band, this document also allows us to get an accurate count of who is participating this season. The program must plan to ensure enough uniforms, equipment, and instruments are available for every participating student.

We look forward to your participation and involvement in the 2021 Cumberland Marching Band!

Regards,

Scott Gordon  
Director of Bands

**Full Band Pre-Season Rehearsals 2021**  
**PRE-SEASON IS REQUIRED FOR ALL MARCHING MEMBERS**

This is our summer intensive camp weeks where we learn the marching band show. This is the time the whole band works intensively on the competition material. It is the most important activity in establishing a successful marching band in both attitude and performance. Please do not schedule any appointments during these weeks.

**2021 Summer Pre-Season Schedule**

**June 7-10 – 8am-2pm**  
(food and transportation support are provided this week)

**July 26-30 – times TBA**  
(more information soon)

**2021 Regular Season Rehearsal Schedule**

Starting on Thursday, August 12 (the first Thursday of school)  
We will have practice every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 3p-6p.

*All rehearsals are at the Cumberland Band Room or adjacent field.*

**2021 Regular Season PERFORMANCE Schedule**

We will perform at all five home varsity football games, as well as competitions in the fall, and two December parades. This schedule will be posted asap.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

### **How will my parents and I keep track of all of this information?**

Most importantly, there is the **Remind.com newsletter**, which is required for parents of marching students to be a part of. Any time there is an update to the web site **Cumberland.band**, or if any other last-second information needs to go out, we send it through our **Remind.com** account. Go to **Remind.com**, make an account, and then join Cumberland Bands at **@cucpsband**. The class you want to sign up for is also named **@cucpsband**. If you have any trouble, then just text or email the director and he'll sign you up.

You can also follow **@CumberlandBands** on Twitter, as well as the Cumberland Bands Facebook page at **facebook.com/cumberlandbands**. For those of you who do not have Internet access, a printed version of the exact same information is available upon request.

*Parents:* we work hard to ensure that all the information you need is available as soon as possible. Between the Remind.com updates, the web site, Twitter, Facebook, and the occasional paper copy, we feel that we have covered our fiduciary responsibility in broadcasting information. It is then incumbent upon the parents to make efforts to retrieve information and to periodically check with the director and staff to ensure all information has been received.

### **What kind of fees can I expect?**

For the 2021 season, you can expect the following expenses: There is a following small financial commitment: Your child will need marching shoes if the/she doesn't already have them. They run around \$40. Every child will need to have either money for concessions on the trips or will need to bring food for meals. If money is an issue, then please speak to me directly.

### **How long to competition days last?**

*Competition days essentially take up the whole day.* We choose competitions that do not interfere with SAT's and PSAT's. The competitions may be on the same days as testing but will be afternoon/evening events. We have successfully navigated these events for years.

### **Do I have to attend "Pre-Season" to do marching band? ...and where is it held?**

In short – **YES!** Pre-Season is what we call our summer intensive program that prepares the band for the competitive season (some call it 'band camp'). It is held at CMS. All students that plan to march need to plan to attend every rehearsal day of band camp. **If you have conflicts and still want to march, then you need to contact the director.** Conflicts are not impossible to deal with, but we just need to **plan ahead**.

### **Do I have to attend every rehearsal and performance/competition?**

In short – **YES!** Families of marching band members should make all plans to schedule doctor's appointments, etc. around the practice schedule. The Cumberland Bands Handbook covers all of the details for absences. Essentially, no excuse will be accepted for missing a competition or performance.

### **Is marching and playing hard?**

**No.** Once you are taught properly, you'll find it is quite easy and fun. Once you understand the skills involved, you will then get to develop your performance level and qualities way beyond what you thought you could do. We have never had a student who could NOT march and play at the same time.

### **Can I do this and keep up in school?**

**SURE!** Thousands and thousands of young people from across the country do it every year! Once you are in the program, you will learn all the methods the upperclassmen use to keep up with homework and class work. In fact, having a network of friends in the band program can improve your ability to make and keep good grades (and many testimonials can attest to this!). Remember, being in marching band gives you a bunch of upperclassmen friends on the first day of school! You will already know about many of the things that your non-marching friends will have to find out on or after the first day of school.

