

KENT CITY HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

JONATHAN SCHNICKE, DIRECTOR
MEGAN FUNK, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
WWW.KENTCITYBANDS.COM



Dear 2019 Band Members and Families,

We are in the final stages of completing the exciting plans for the **2019 Kent City Marching Eagles Band Camp** at Ferris State University at Big Rapids, MI! We hope you are looking forward to this week of work, study, and fun. The purpose of this camp is to give our Marching Eagles a head start on learning and memorizing our 2019 competitive marching show. It is a phenomenal way to build relationships as well as learn music and drill for the show. Students that don't attend camp are allowed to be in the band, but they are not guaranteed a performing spot on the field.

WHAT IS MARCHING BAND?

Marching band is an extension of our classroom. It marries the audio qualities of music making with the visual artistry of creating drill on the football field. This is accentuated by the usage of color guard and dance elements for the entire ensemble. Come to band camp with an open mind and ready to stretch yourself to do things you never dreamed possible. Remember - you will achieve what you put into the product. Go full in - you won't be sorry.

WHAT IS BAND CAMP?

An intensive week of musical, visual and social preparations for the upcoming marching season. During the week, we will have our staff in place to help with delivering information in a focused environment.

MENTALLY PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR CAMP:

Band camp is a week away from home. It is a lot of work and a LOT of physical exertion. Parents please have conversations with your child about how to cope with stress and anxiety if this happens to be a first time away from home for an extended period. We have lots of surrogate moms and dads at camp to look after your kids, BUT, spending a little time in conversation and planning will help your child have the best experience possible.

SEASON APPAREL:

We will have 2 apparel orders. Order one is specifically for band camp/summer attire. The second order will take place once the school year begins and will be field show apparel.

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PICTURES:

We will be once again taking professional photos in uniform this fall. Information will be sent home and online once available.

CAMP DATES:

Leadership Summit - July 8 - 1-5pm

Band Camp - Monday, July 15- Friday, July 19, 2019

MANDATORY - PARENT INFORMATION MEETING:

Online - View via Facebook/Band App - Signed Acknowledgement means you agree to rules.

REQUIRED LUGGAGE CHECK:

Sunday, July 14 at Kent City High School Band Room, 3-5 p.m. (12th@3, 11th@3:30, 10th@4, 8/9 at 4:30pm) ALL Paperwork MUST be submitted AND all monies paid in full by this time.

CAMP DROP-OFF:

For STUDENTS, STAFF, and CHAPERONES ONLY, there will be a continental breakfast of juice and doughnuts from 8:00-8:30 a.m. on July 15 in the high school band room. Breakfast is required and VERY necessary every day (these snacks on send-off day will be good for a treat, but please eat breakfast before you arrive). Band Camp days are long, outside, and dangerous if not eating.

DEPARTURE:

8:30 a.m. July 15 from Kent City High School Band Room. Buses will be provided for all students. Students are NOT permitted to drive to band camp.

ONLY a carry-on backpack and students' pillows will be allowed on the bus the morning of departure. All suitcases and "luggage" will have been checked, sealed, and loaded the night of July 14.

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PICK UP:

Students will not be performing at the end of camp due to maintenance on Top Taggart Stadium at FSU. We will transport students home from camp. **STUDENTS WILL ARRIVE TO KENT CITY HIGH SCHOOL APPROXIMATELY AT 6PM. PLEASE MAKE PLANS TO BE THERE TO PICK YOUR CHILD UP OR HAVE ANOTHER FAMILY MEMBER THERE.**

STAFF:

Band Camp is staffed by the Kent City Bands **AND** Ferris State. Students and their rehearsal, dining, and residence areas will be patrolled by campus security and live-in Ferris staff who are on duty 24 hours a day. Kent City is bringing several chaperones and staff to instruct and oversee our day to day operations.

HOUSING:

We will be staying in Residence Halls at FSU. Rooms are in suites with a bathroom between rooms. Students should have a roommate. Rooming assignments will be posted on the website prior to band camp.

MEALS:

All meals beginning with lunch on July 15 and ending with lunch on July 19 are included in each student's band camp payment. **ALL meals are REQUIRED.** No backpacks/water jugs in cafeteria. *Students MUST have breakfast before our departure.*

MEDICAL AND PERMISSION FORMS:

All permission forms & emergency medical forms are due **at the loading day on July 14.** (You may find the forms online at www.kentcitybands.com or you may fill them out when you arrive to the meeting.) Please provide the most complete and up-to-date information possible. Please inform us if there is anything about your child's medical history we should know. Make sure that all forms are completed and signed with both parent and student signatures. **ALL FORMS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND BAND CAMP!**

The University provides immediate medical and emergency attention and support to our students while at camp. One of our chaperones will also be serving as "camp nurse" to make sure students are tending to their own specific needs.

PAYMENT:

Payment is due by luggage check-in. Cost is \$340. New marchers will need to purchase their marching shoes as well (additional \$25-35).

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ASSISTANCE

Should any family need financial assistance due to hardship we have a scholarship application that was due on May 31. If of a severe nature, a guardian should email John Petruska, Booster President at jopetruska@hotmail.com to inquire about opportunities to assist your student. It is our hope that no student will be denied from the Kent City Band program due to financial hardship.

SCHEDULE:

Attendance to rehearsals/sectionals/performances are part of your child's grade. It is important that students attend these.

We do our best to keep the schedule updated on Charms/Facebook/Band App (kentcitybands.com)

Schedule is available online at www.kentcitybands.com. (Click on the calendar tab).

Schedule will be updated throughout the spring.

REGULAR SEASON PARKING LOT REHEARSAL CONSIDERATIONS:

We will march on both grass and parking lots at camp. Our main rehearsal field is the parking lot behind the stadium. Here are some things to survive marching on the lot:

Shoes - DO NOT USE NEW SHOES ON THE LOT. The lot will chew up your shoes throughout the season. Plan on one pair of shoes that you try to make last for the season. They will most likely be destroyed by the end of the season.

Chalk - To mark your spots on the lot, standard or spray

Knee Pads - We do a LOT of body-work and will be up and down on the pavement. You may find it helpful to acquire a set of knee pads for when we work on these visuals.

Towel - When setting your instrument down, to prevent damage, you may want to have a small towel to set your instrument down on the pavement (tubas and trombones and tenor/bari sax will need a larger towel).

COMMUNICATION:

***New as of 2018- For questions on times and general information about events, etc. please email the booster secretary Andrea DeGraaf- andrea@kentcitybands.com. If information beyond that, please reach out to Assistant Director - Mrs. Funk - megan.funk@kentcityschools.org. (Assuming Mrs. Funk is in our class reh's) Starting June of 2018, please do NOT contact Directors via Facebook Messenger. Messenger is a great tool but it is not an appropriate way to reach out for information from directors. Also, emails will be returned within 24-48 hours. Email is the preferred method of communication due to having two offices and two separate voicemails.

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WHAT TO BRING TO BAND CAMP 2019

- Instrument, in good working order (Have your instrument inspected before band camp). Meyer Music, Marshall Music or West Michigan Band will take care of it.
- Lanyard or long shoe lace to hold drill cards.
- Sling/reg. back pack and/or fanny pack for belongings to the field (cellphone, drill cards, chalk, reeds, etc)
- **3 Ring Binder with 8-10 sheet protectors. These are a requirement. Also a rope to hang it from shoulder. This will fit nicely in sling backpack to and from the field.**
- 5-6 marching markers (have to be flat, small enough to hide with feet, large enough to see from far away, heavy enough to not blow away, and light enough to carry them all around at once) also a lanyard/shoe string for them as well as your drill cards.
- Instrument extras: valve oil, slide oil, cork grease, extra reeds, extra drumsticks & tape, pencils, rubber bands, etc.
- Prescription Medications, including allergy medication, inhaler and epi-pens (**Note:** we cannot administer any medications without signed forms. In the band camp packet you will find a form for administration of OTC medications. There is also space for you to add specific items your student is used to using regularly.)
- Lip balm (Carmex is great for Brass), Gold Bond Powder (if needed during the day)
- Knee and/or ankle braces if needed
- Bug spray, **sun-block**, sunglasses, **sun visor/hat**
- Athletic shoes (athletic shoes with solid sides, toes and back, they should be made of leather or canvas, no vinyl or plastic, new shoes not recommended)
- Extra socks (higher than ankle to avoid blisters)
- Cotton t-shirts and athletic shorts (you will get dirty, hot and sweaty, so bring plenty)
- Raincoat/gear, sweatshirt and/or light jacket if needed.
- Alarm clock
- Box fan/Fan have it clearly labeled with your name.
- Towel and washcloth
- Personal hygiene items (shampoo, soap, comb, toothbrush, etc.), Lip balm (Carmex is great for Brass), Gold Bond Powder
- Knee and/or ankle braces if needed
- Bedding
- Water jug (Igloo Cooler style)
- Modest swimsuit. Bring a towel. We may be swimming on one of the days for camp.
- Compression shorts to protect legs from being chapped. They can be purchased at Target, Walmart, or sporting goods stores. They are worn under mesh or nylon type athletic shorts.

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- Attire - This is an outdoor camp. Dress accordingly. Clothing needs to be cool and appropriate for outdoor athletic exercise. Remember, band camp rehearsals will be warm and outside. You will be doing a lot of athletic activity. Please be aware and prepared (it might be colder when we start and then heat up throughout the day). Dress in layers. We treat band camp the same as any athletic sport practice in the summer that practices outside. Appropriate Athletic wear is acceptable: Tank Tops, Sports Bras, Spandex, Shorts, etc. We do ask that during meals, shirts must be worn.
- Hats - We wear hats at band camp to keep the top of our heads cool and protected from the sun.

******DO NOT BRING:** drinks (other than initial water bottle), stereos, laptops, tv's or coolers

COME PREPARED FOR HOT WEATHER... ANY WEATHER! (we will rehearse - rain or shine)

All meals are provided and required to be eaten in the dining hall; bringing food is not necessary. However, many students choose to bring some snack foods for between meals. **You may also want to bring cash for booster-provided drinks or foods in the dorm at night (pizza, Powerade, etc.)**

All luggage will be hand checked by the student in front of a same-sex chaperone before loading the trailer on July 14. Please pack accordingly. Carry-on items will also be checked upon boarding the following morning. Again, pack accordingly.

You will need khaki pants/shorts/skirt for non-uniform performances. Students will wear their show shirts and khaki bottoms with tennis shoes.

Important Health Reminder:

To the parents of children with asthma/reactive airway conditions: Please do not forget to pack your child's inhaler, even if he/she hasn't used it in a while. The conditions may include dust, pollens, and other environmental allergens to which your child is sensitive.

RULES

All meals (breakfast, lunch, and dinner) are REQUIRED. Even if a student doesn't normally eat 3 meals, they are required to get nutrition in them at each meal-time as they are doing physical activity all day.

No drug, smoking/vaping materials, tobacco products, non-prescription drugs, or alcoholic beverages are permitted at band camp (or any Kent City Band function). If any student is found in violation, parents will need to come to camp to pick up student (also school administration will be notified). Student will/may be dropped from the course for this violation.

ABSOLUTELY no hazing permitted. If your child is feeling like they are being picked on, please have them contact any of their student leadership for assistance. Also we have staff and chaperones for students to reach out for help as well. We want your child to feel safe and secure at camp and sometimes it's based on misunderstandings and a conversation can clear the air.

The chaperones and camp staff MUST be obeyed and treated with respect. They have the same authority as the director.

No band member will leave the campus during the week for any reason.

Genders have been separated by living areas. Boys and girls are not to enter each others' areas/rooms. Once it is lights out, students are not permitted to be out of their suites. If they are found to be out of their assigned suite, student may receive disciplinary action up to parent picking them up from camp immediately.

No returning to the dorm at any time, other than free time, unless accompanied by a chaperone.

No non-band guests should be invited or welcomed into our rehearsal or living spaces while there.

No excuses for tardiness will be accepted.

Dorms will be kept clean at all times. There will be inspections by chaperones each day.

Do not enter any room, other than your own, except by invitation.

Band members are not permitted in any building on campus without an instructor.

ALL PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION should have a form signed by physician for self-administration.

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Lost keys will be charged at \$50.00 to re-key doors.

In addition, all rules of Kent City High School, and the Kent City Board of Education rules will be in force during the entire duration of the camp. ANY VIOLATION OF THESE RULES WILL RESULT IN DISCIPLINARY ACTION BY THE DIRECTOR/SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION.

Any student not in attendance of required events (meals, rehearsals, sectionals, room checks, etc.) will be sent home.

Any student violating any of the previously mentioned rules or any FSU rule will be sent home.

When you arrive to your room, scan for any damage and report it to a chaperone. If there are phones in your dorm room, do not use them.

Don't bring anything expensive to camp, if you do, you are bringing it at your own risk.

Cellphones at Band Camp - Some students use cellphones for their drill cards during rehearsals. This is not the best way to utilize your drill. It is fine to snap a picture in case you lose your cards, but if you drop your drill card you pick it up off the lot and keep going. If you drop you \$1000 iPhone X on the pavement....your parents won't be happy. Students can have their cellphones with them, but we ask that students stay OFF their phones during rehearsal. Please don't check social media during rehearsal nor check the time. We will get you out on time from rehearsals.

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Band Camp Typical Daily Schedule - Varies day by day

6:30am - Wake Up
7am - Breakfast
8am - Stretching with Drum Major's
 - Morning Rehearsal Block - Basics/Drill/Music
12pm - Lunch
12:45-1:15 - Mandatory Rest Time - Must be in room with feet up
1:30-3:30pm - Sectionals
3:30-4pm - Concert Rehearsal
4-5pm - Activity
5pm - Dinner
6pm - Dark - Evening Rehearsal
10:30 - In Suite/On Floor
11pm - Lights Out

Theme Days - Must be dressed in theme at morning rehearsal (stretching) or sectionals.:

Sunday (loading)-shady Sunday
Monday-'Merica Monday
Tuesday-Heroes v. Villains day
Wednesday-Waikiki Wednesday
Thursday-Section day
Friday-Christmas day

Activities could include (activities will be announced at Camp):

Kickball
Movie Night
Hangout Night
Swimming at the Pool
Campfire Songs
Capture the Flag
Section Skit Night

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Main Communication Tools:

See www.kentcitybands.com for more details on how to sign up for these.

Band App - Kent City Marching Band

Remind -

Social Media -

Facebook - Kent City High School Bands or Kent City Music Boosters

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