



Welcome to the Brownsburg Color Guard! Whether you're a new parent to the color guard or a returning parent, we wanted to share some information we hope you will find helpful!

The color guard is a unique activity. In the fall we are a part of the Brownsburg Marching Band, this means that we are responsible for contributing and participating as band parents; however, we are still a subgroup of the larger organization and have responsibilities in our smaller group as well.

In the past, we have learned that there are some tips that parents may find helpful as they begin their journey as a guard parent. Please take a moment to look over the tips offered by some of the parents.

1. In order to feel involved or "in the loop," attend the parent meetings. There is usually very good information provided at these meetings, as well as opportunity for the parents to bond as a group. It can be intimidating to be a new or even returning parent who may not have gotten to know other parents in the past. Please don't let that keep you from getting to know everyone. We want to be inclusive and know you, as well as your child.
2. Get involved from the start. There are so many things to do and it's easy to get involved. Chaperoning on the bus, decorating lockers, providing snacks, sewing flags, making flower bouquets, etc. Joining the prop crew is always a great opportunity. Your child will love to have you participate in this activity with them - even if they do not admit it.
3. Thursday nights are "run thru" nights. During marching band season, these take place about thirty minutes before rehearsal ends. This is an opportunity for parents to learn the show and watch it evolve. When you know the show and know where your child is on the field at times, it's easier to appreciate and watch the rest of the field as well. This is also another opportunity to get to know the parents.
4. Buy a show shirt; it's important. Many parents don't realize that the parents and siblings wear them. **THEY DO!** When you go to a show or contest that is all you see in the stands. Every school that participates has parents in the stands wearing their show shirts.
5. Sit with other parents at the contests. The kids like to look up into the crowds from the field and see their parents in a large group wearing their show shirts and cheering for them. It's a good investment-you'll wear it almost every weekend for at least a couple of months. Some of the parents save all of their show shirts to make a keepsake for graduation (like quilts, blankets, etc).
6. Get to know the other guard/band kids. It is a lot more enjoyable when you know the other kids, too. When you're an involved guard/band parent, the kids kind of adopt you and they love to get to know you.
7. Talk to you child about practices. It's fun to hear the back-stories and funny sayings they come up with.
8. Attend Band Booster meetings. There is always good information provided at these meetings and you can get any questions answered. You will not feel out of the loop if you attend and get on the email lists.
9. Volunteer at the contests. Brownsburg hosts a show in the wintertime during winter guard. As a volunteer you gain a much better understanding of how the machine works and exactly what the kids do every weekend.
10. If you can, invest in a camera with a good zoom. The professional photos can be expensive and decent cameras are not too bad. Its hard to get a good shot across a football field with a cell phone.



Color Guard Parent Tips

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We hope this information hasn't been too overwhelming. Some parents will admit that they didn't know how much was involved when their child decided to join color guard. Color guard is very rewarding and it is also very rewarding to be a part of your child's journey. The kids build deep friendships and bonds because of the amount of time they spend together. They adopt theme songs that they sing prior to contests, traditions, inside jokes, and many more.

"You'll never regret the time you spend, only the times you miss."

Here's to a great guard season!