



**BROWNSBURG**  
BANDS

**THE SOUND OF  
BROWNSBURG  
MARCHING BAND**

## **A Forward to the students and parents of the Brownsburg High School Marching Band**

2023 Performers and Parents,

The directors of the Brownsburg Bands are SO EXCITED that you are taking part in one of the most rewarding programs in the Brownsburg Community School Corporation. We are looking forward to a very successful year. The family that is the Sound of Brownsburg can help define your high school career, and teach you lessons in life that many of us may not understand for years.

It is amazing to be a part of a group that is bigger than any individual, yet the individual is SO important to the whole. In the book and movies “The Jungle Book” the wolves have a quote “For the strength of the pack is the wolf, and the strength of the wolf is the pack.” This is SO TRUE for this marching band activity we do. This group can achieve AMAZING accomplishments and can push you further than you ever thought possible. Yet, YOU as an individual is what will make this group amazing.

There will be days that you may not love the group, people in your section, a teacher, etc., but our passion for music making, performing, and excellence is what makes us unique. Desire is the key to motivation, but it is the determination and commitment to an unrelenting pursuit of our goal, a commitment to excellence, that will enable us to attain the success we seek. Students and parents, we are not telling you this is going to be easy, but we are telling you it’s going to be worth it.

Welcome to the family.

Sincerely,

Chris Kaflik  
Chris Paulson  
John Marque  
Aylin Vural

## **COMMUNICATION**

Communication is a CRITICAL component of any successful organization. The directors communicate with students and parents through several outlets. We rely on these methods of communication for schedules, payments information, any changes, locations, etc.

1. Remind101 – See numbers and codes below
2. eNews – our weekly communication email  
<https://www.brownsburgbands.com/email-newsletter-sign-up/>
3. Facebook – Brownsburg Bands, Brownsburg Percussion, BCG Parents
4. Instagram – Brownsburg Bands, Brownsburg Color Guard, & Brownsburg Percussion
5. Twitter – Brownsburg Bands
6. Hard copy information is handed out to students (also emailed)
7. [www.brownsburgbands.com](http://www.brownsburgbands.com)
8. [www.cuttime.net](http://www.cuttime.net)

## **OBJECTIVES**

- Our number-one job is to get kids to fall in love with music
- Excellence in life through performance in band
- To give the students an opportunity to enjoy and learn about music through active participation
- To give the personal and group character traits of leadership, poise, dependability, and time management
- To develop the skill and technical ability to lead to mastery of an instrument, movement, or other visual equipment.
- To acquaint the students with a wide variety of marching and visual repertoire
- To serve and represent the school and community in public concerts, parades, competitions, and other functions with pride and excellence as our goal

## **BALANCED CALENDAR**

**\*\*Please see the online calendar on the band website to view dates of camps, rehearsals, and competitions that occur throughout the season. This includes the summer and fall break.**

*This calendar is NOT yet final, it is about 95%. There is a possibility that some of the weekday rehearsals may shift according to the needs of athletics, design team members, school activities, etc.*

**Remind 101** – Text the code affiliated with the group below, to this number: 81010

Students – Class of 2024	@2bke63g
Students – Class of 2025	@26ba83
Students – Class of 2026	@k3ga2e
Students – Class of 2027	@ckafli
Students – Class of 2028	@ckaflik

Parent/Guardian – Class of 2024	@mrrunyon
Parent/Guardian – Class of 2025	@233ff2c
Parent/Guardian – Class of 2026	@b9cd6b
Parent/Guardian – Class of 2027	@feef73
Parent/Guardian – Class of 2028	@b6d839

## **POLICIES**

### **I. Behavior**

Member behavior is crucial to success in everything we try to accomplish throughout the year. It is important that students understand that they are not only representing themselves but the community as well. We are TRULY one of the most visible **ambassadors** of the Brownsburg Community. We expect to be a **FIRST CLASS ORGANIZATION** at all times.

- A. Students will present themselves at all times with proper dress, language, and actions.

#### **Unacceptable Clothing:**

Sports Bras – without coverage  
 Spaghetti strap shirts  
 Shorts, jeans with holes in inappropriate places  
 Undergarments showing at anytime  
 Clothing that has suggestive or double meaning

\*\*Any clothing that does not represent the school or community in the highest standards

#### **Unacceptable Language:**

Vulgarity of any kind  
 Demeaning or putting down of another  
 Disrespectful language towards another

\*\*Any language that does not represent the school or community in the highest standards

#### **Unacceptable Actions:**

Being disrespectful towards another student, staff or parent/volunteer  
 Inappropriate gestures  
 Any sexual intended action

\*\*Any action that does not represent the school or community in the highest standards

#### **Potential Consequence:**

Continuous violation of the behavior expected from marching band members may result in removal from performances, award ceremonies, the marching band entirely, and/or repercussions determined by the directors.

## II. Attendance Policy

- **All practices and performances are MANDATORY.**
- **PLAN AHEAD! THE SCHEDULE IS PROVIDED ONLINE WELL IN ADVANCE**
  - If you have a conflict, see A DIRECTOR as soon as you know about it. Rehearsals and performances need to be a priority for the sake of the full group and your individual contribution to the show.
    - Please notify the directors if you are/will be running late to a rehearsal
    - ***Do not have someone else deliver the message for you.***
    - If a student is absent from school due to an illness, students will be excused from rehearsal the day of the absence.

**\*Consistent tardiness to rehearsals may result in the student's spot in the show being filled and/or replaced.**

- During all rehearsals/contests there should be NO scheduled conflicts with other appointments.
- Please check your calendar and arrange all appointments on opposite rehearsal/contest days.
- At home discipline
  - The Brownsburg directors and staff do not wish to involve themselves in disciplinary actions that happen within the student's household.
    - Please do not contact directors about appropriate disciplinary actions revolving around household matters.
    - \*\*\*The only thing the staff would ask is please do not ground a student from "attending marching band or color guard" as that has a negative effect on the entire group.

***NOTE: BEING PRESENT AT SCHOOL (DAY OF REHEARSAL AND DAY AFTER A REHEARSAL) BUT ABSENT FROM THE EVENING REHEARSAL DUE TO NOT FEELING WELL IS NOT ALLOWED. IF A STUDENT IS WELL ENOUGH TO BE AT SCHOOL THEY MUST ATTEND THE REHEARSAL THAT EVENING.***

### **Potential Consequences:**

- If at any time a student receives 2 or more unexcused absences/tardies, their spot in the show is subject to being filled and/or replaced.
- If a student is unexcused and misses any performance (even 1), their spot in the show is subject to being filled and/or replaced.
  - Students that have an unexcused absence during the week of a performance may be ineligible to perform that week. That decision is made at the discretion of the band director. They will still be required to attend the performance and ALL rehearsals.
  - Students with unexcused absences will not receive full credit.
- Regular tardiness may result in:
  - Conference with the band directors and/or guard director
  - Ineligibility to perform
  - Replacement and/or removal from the show
  - Full credit will not be given

### III. INJURIES

Marching Band is a physical activity, and there is a distinct possibility of minor injuries along the way. There will be days where students are sore, hurting, etc. That is not the same as an injury. The staff is EXTREMELY conscientious of students who need to sit out for a few reps to recover. However, if a student is going to be out of a full rehearsal, they will need to have a doctor's note.

Students who are out of rehearsal with excused doctor's notes are still expected to be at rehearsal (and performances), and as actively involved as they can be.

- If a student misses and/or sits out of rehearsal for more than 2 rehearsals without a doctor's note, their spot in the show is subject to being filled and/or replaced.

### IV. SOCIAL MEDIA

As mentioned above, the Sound of Brownsburg is a FIRST CLASS ORGANIZATION AT ALL TIMES. This includes being "first class" on social media.

- Unprofessional/inappropriate use of social media may result in:
  - Conference with the band directors and/or guard director
  - Ineligibility to perform
  - Replacement and/or removal from the show
  - Disciplinary action taken from Brownsburg High School Administration
- Social Media includes but is not limited to:  
Instagram, Facebook, SnapChat, Twitter, Tik-Tok, LinkedIn, etc.

*We would like to make sure parents are aware that this applies to them in some ways as well. Social media is not the place for venting about the program, staff, students, other parents, etc. It is a public forum, and Brownsburg has a fantastic reputation in terms of our professionalism. It will also help alleviate some confusion if parents come to the directors with questions rather than trying to answer them on social media. Sometimes the wrong information is delivered between parents on social media, which circulates to others. eNews, emails sent by directors, Remind101, etc., can be trusted to answer all questions.*

**Grades: Grades are essential to the success of a student at school. Students must realize the importance of grades and are expected to maintain an acceptable standard.** Students must maintain a 2.0 gpa throughout the marching band season. Students that do not have a seven period day may not have more than one failing grade in a nine weeks. Grades will be checked on a regular basis at midterm and at the end of the nine weeks to ensure compliance with this rule. Students that fall below a 2.0 will be ineligible to perform until the midterm of the next 9 weeks after the report cards have been published. Students may still practice but will be ineligible to perform. Students must make sure that they are performing as well in school as they are in band or guard. Each member is counting on each other to maintain these standards. Please encourage your student to stay on top of their grades. ***However, homework is not an acceptable excuse to miss rehearsals.*** If a student is in need of assistance after school can be available for help. Please plan ahead!

**Cell phones: Cell phones are allowed at school but not allowed at rehearsals or during a performance (unless otherwise stated by a director)!**

### SCHOOL RULES APPLY

All rehearsals, trips and performances are considered school functions. Therefore, all school rules that govern students, as outlined in the student handbook, apply.

## **PE CREDIT**

Freshman members who complete the marching season will be eligible to receive 1 semester PE credit. The marching activity must be completed thru the last performance in November. If a student should decide not to continue, the student will not receive the full PE credit. Students can earn both credits by either marching for two years or being in a full year of color guard. The deadline for this form will be announced.

*Please fill out the form provided on the band website.*

## **SUMMER REHEARSALS & 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY PARADE:**

### **Meals**

Students need to bring a sack lunch/dinner for all camps (June 19-23 and July 24-31)

Students will not be allowed to leave campus for any reason until the rehearsal day is completed.

### **JULY 4<sup>th</sup> Parade**

Thursday, July 4 for the Annual Lion's Club Parade (8am-12pm)

- a. Uniform – Member Shirt
  - i. Black shorts (not athletic shorts)
  - ii. Athletic Socks
  - iii. Tennis shoes

### **WE NEED HELP!!!**

1. We would like a van, SUV, or truck to drive in front of the band (with the trunk open). The van will hold water bottles, sprayers, ice, etc.
2. We need 4-5 parents walking the parade route with the band to help with water, sprayers, ice, etc.

### **Summer Band**

1. Students are REQUIRED to be at these rehearsals
2. All students must bring a water jug (filled before rehearsal) to rehearsal in the summer and fall
3. Parents picking up students from rehearsal must do so at door 14 or 15
4. Tardiness is not acceptable – please see attendance policies
5. In the case of a heat/weather advisory, we will not rehearse outside. Therefore, rehearsals could be cut short or rescheduled for another day. We will notify students/parents as soon as possible.
  - a. Be aware that there WILL be times where we rehearse in some elements as well.
6. All students driving to band must park at the north/northeast side of the building.

**Parents: For safety reasons please explain to your student that they may not drive the car once it is parked until they are leaving the school grounds. Also, please talk about proper driving skills in parking lots.**

**Note: Students that abuse driving privileges or are reckless drivers may lose driving privileges.**

**\*The attached agreement (page 11) must be filled out and signed by all student drivers**

## **AFTER SCHOOL REHEARSALS**

When the school year begins the marching band has a very regular schedule. **ALL rehearsals are required.**

- Monday – 3:30-6:15 (Winds & Percussion), Color Guard 6:00-9:00
- Tuesday – 3:30-6:15 (Winds & Percussion)
- Wednesday – 2:00-6:00 – (Color Guard)
- Thursday – 6:00-9:00 (All)
- Fridays – As seen on the calendar.
- Saturdays – As seen on the calendar.

There is a possibility that some weeks will have an adjusted schedule due to choreographer, designer availability, school activities that are not yet confirmed, etc. This does mean that there is a possibility of a Wednesday rehearsal, adjusted rehearsal times, etc. Students and parents will ALWAYS be informed significantly in advance.

Just like the summer, please make sure all students are coming prepared for any weather conditions.

### **Permanent Spot**

This will go to students who can attend **ALL** summer camps, **ALL** fall practices, and **ALL** performances. These spots are also based on the director's discretion. They are selected for a spot based on June practices. Students must be proficient on their instrument to be considered for a permanent spot. Students must also be in good academic standing (min. 2.0 gpa).

### **Shadow/Shared/Alternate Spot**

This area is for students who were not selected for a permanent spot; students not in good academic standing or have a performance conflict but were selected to fill spots in the case of special circumstances. Sometimes, there are students that may be entirely overwhelmed with performing an entire show. This spot in the show may work better for them until skills are developed for future years. The directors also reserve the right to determine alternate spots. These students will perform at every performance.

#### **Note:**

This system is to give us the maximum attendance at all rehearsals and performances. The intent is not to limit the total number of students who will participate, but to give students the understanding that they are important, needed all of the time and must be able to play and march with correct fundamentals. We do not want to limit the student's participation, but there are times when students have major conflicts and cannot attend practices; this hurts the students who attend 100% of practices. ALL students are required to attend all camps, practices, performances, and rehearsals even if they are an alternate.

## **FEES**

The financial responsibility involved with marching band is extensive. The breakdown of the fees can be found on the Timeline Document found on the band website. In order for the organization to function, it is CRITICAL that the financial obligations are paid according to the schedule laid out on the Timeline Document.



# PARENT INVOLVEMENT

The Band Program is only as strong as the parent group

WAYS TO VOLUNTEER FOR PRIDE & HOW TO SIGN-UP (no limit)

*Please see the dates on the calendar and sign up on [signupschedule.com/bbop](http://signupschedule.com/bbop).*

- Work concessions – Football Games
- Work events that are major fundraisers for the pride. Those events include:
  - Car Wash – June
  - Brownsburg Invitational – September 9
  - Guard Contest – February
  - Percussion Contest – March
- Wash Uniforms - This takes a lot of people! AND, it is so important
- Sew Uniforms (Mending and hemming.)
- Guard Sewing (Iron, cut and sew fabric – uniforms, flags, etc.)
- Feeding Band – Before football games
- Operations/Prop Crew (the crew builds the equipment, get equipment on/off the field, repairs, loading/unloading the truck, etc.)
- Photographers – We love to post on Facebook, and create promotional news items, etc. with pictures of the band.
- Videographer – The students have always loved the end of the year video that parents have created in the past. This person can take videos of shows (when permitted), rehearsals, etc. They will likely coordinate with any photographers as well.
- Chaperone contests – Chaperones ride the bus with the students to and from the contest
- Nurse on duty for rehearsals – particularly summer rehearsals and Saturdays

If you are interested, please call Mr. Kaflik at school 317-852-2258 ext. 1823 or [ckaflik@brownsburg.k12.in.us](mailto:ckaflik@brownsburg.k12.in.us) OR Mr. Paulson at school 317-852-2258 ext. 1819 or [cpaulson@brownsburg.k12.in.us](mailto:cpaulson@brownsburg.k12.in.us)