

Aloha High School

Marching Ensemble

Handbook

2019



Letter from the Director:

Dear Marching Ensemble members and families,

My name is Aliyah Jackson and I am the Director of Bands at Aloha High School. I am very excited that you have chosen to continue music at the high school level and are joining the marching ensemble. The marching ensemble is one of the most active performing groups in the school, and your student will learn lifelong skills both as a musician as well as a leader. The standard of excellence is high, and students will rise to a new level of achievement.

This handbook is designed to give you an in-depth look at the expectations of being a marching band member at Aloha. It will also help you understand what being a marching band parent is like and the fun opportunities that come with being involved in this activity with your student. If you are new to marching band, please familiarize yourself with all policies and procedures. If you are a returning member, please carefully read through as there have been some changes and additions for the 2019 season.

If you still have any questions after reading, please feel free to contact me at aliyah_jackson@beaverton.k12.or.us

Thank you,

Aliyah Jackson
Director of Bands
Aloha High School

Marching Ensemble Description, Requirements, & Benefits

Marching ensemble is a dedicated group of musicians and color guard members who dedicate hours of rehearsal to produce a quality competitive marching field show production. Students in marching band learn the basics of marching technique, memorize the music to a 3-4 movement show that is custom designed for the Aloha Band, and learn the drill movements of a field show to be performed at half time during football games and 3-4 competitions during the fall.

Marching ensemble is a co-curricular activity similar to a fall sport, except that enrollment in one of the band classes during the school day is required for enrollment in Marching Ensemble. Students are not automatically enrolled in Marching ensemble and must register separately.

Marching ensemble is a rigorous program that requires dedication and an exceptional work ethic by all members. Attendance of all after school rehearsals, weekend competitions, fundraisers, and other activities is mandatory. Because every student has an individual place in the form of the show, tardiness and absences are unacceptable. Please see the AHS Marching Ensemble attendance policy below for further information.

Marching ensemble is very enjoyable for students. Students of all levels come together to make a quality production with many student leadership opportunities. Older students mentor younger students, and marching ensemble gives students a tight-knit community of friends for the duration of high school. Band Camp is scheduled during the summer before school starts.

Students are required to participate in all rehearsals, competitions, and football games. A high level of commitment, a solid work ethic, and a willingness to learn are qualities Aloha marching ensemble members possess. It is imperative that students recognize their importance to the group, regardless of their year in high school or what role they play in the marching band. Everyone's position on the field is a part of a large picture seen by the audience. Please read this handbook carefully to understand the expectations when participating as an Aloha High School Marching Ensemble member.

Frequently asked questions:

What is required of marching students?

When students register for Marching Ensemble it means that they will be a fully participating member of the fall marching show with a unique and important role to play. There are no cuts and no second string in marching ensemble. All members are required to:

- Attend band camp August 12-23rd 2019
- Attend ALL after school and weekend rehearsals (full schedule below)
- Attend 4-5 competitions in September-November
- Attend every Friday night football game with pep band and perform in the half time show
- March in scheduled parades
- Meet academic eligibility requirements
- Pay WBAPI fees and Aloha Activity fee

Marching Ensemble but not Concert Band?

Color guard members may be in marching ensemble without enrolling in a class band, but all woodwind, brass, and percussion students are required to enroll in a curricular band class in order to participate. Exceptions to this are extremely rare. Please contact the director with any questions.

What if I don't go to Aloha?

Students who are in the Aloha attendance zone who are home schooled or attend magnet schools or other schools may participate in marching ensemble. They are required to pay both the WBAPI fee and the Aloha activity fee.

What are the dates and times of the Marching Ensemble rehearsals and competitions?

Dates and times of each rehearsal and competition will be sent out in the spring or summer before the fall marching season. Competition days are long and often begin around 8am and end around 10pm. If there is an overnight trip scheduled, departure times can be early in the morning for travel time.

What is WBAPI?

Warrior Bands and Auxiliary Parent Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit organization that exists to support the many performing ensembles at Aloha High School. We have a wide variety of ensembles including the Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Marching Band, Jazz Band, Musical Theater Orchestra, and Basketball Band.

WBAPI supports the Aloha Band by providing funds, logistics, and volunteer support for the many fundraisers and band events throughout the year. We hope that providing this support helps grow leaders and provides the students with a quality experience while giving back to the community. Any donations given to WBAPI are tax deductible (this includes donations to the marching band scholarship fund).

What does the WBAPI and Aloha activity fee include?

- Uniform check out and fee
- Show theme t-shirt
- Full cost of two-week band camp including instructional staff
- Instructional staff for after school rehearsals
- Transportation to and from competitions
- Entrance fees for competitions
- One meal at each day competition, all meals at overnight competitions
- Design and production cost of half time field and competition show, props, etc.

WBAPI works to keep these costs as low as possible. When compared to residential summer camps, the value is extremely high for the instruction time for your student.

How much does Marching Ensemble cost?

2019 Marching Fees

New band member:

\$250, plus \$50 shoe fee

Keep your shoes for future years on the AHS marching band!

Color Guard:

\$300 flat fee (includes costume expense)

Returning band member:

\$250 flat fee (does not need new shoes)

Do I have to be at every rehearsal and competition?

Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to fully participate in the summer band camp, every rehearsal, every football game, and every competition. Students involved in fall sports must communicate with the director prior to registering for marching band for approval. This will ensure there are no major conflicts and will avoid any last-minute changes.

Students will:

- Attend every rehearsal, arriving at least 10 minutes before rehearsal to put instrument together and report to predetermined rehearsal space. The rehearsal times listed are START times, not arrival times. Some sections such as percussion, pit, and guard take extra set up time. Do not be late.
- Arrive to Aloha promptly at every call time for Saturday competitions. A missing student negatively effects the entire group.

Attendance procedure:

If a student does not comply with the Attendance Policy, the process will be as follows:

Tardiness: If a student is habitually late (more than two times to a rehearsal, competition, or football game) an email will be sent to student and guardians as a reminder of the importance of the start or call times.

If tardiness continues after this contact has been made, a phone call will be made to student's parents and guardians and an attendance contract will be signed to ensure the student's future success. If a student does not succeed in better promptness, the student may be removed from marching ensemble.

Absences: Excused absences are family emergencies (an email or phone call must be provided by parent) and the inability to come to rehearsal caused by severe illness. Not wanting to go to rehearsal, forgetting to ask for time off of work, etc. are not excused absences. Scheduled absences will be pre-arranged through the director and should be avoided. This is to ensure the success of the individual student and ensemble. If a student is absent for one rehearsal, it is very difficult for the student to try and catch up on what was missed. One student's inconsistent attendance will negatively affect the entire ensemble.

If a student is inconsistent in attendance, parent contact will be made to ensure that the student can be successful for the rest of the season. The student may be placed on Attendance Probation which can include a conference with the student, parents, and the director to support the student's success and an attendance contract will be signed. If student does not succeed in better attendance, the student may be removed from marching ensemble.

What is the parent/guardian involvement?

Marching Ensemble is impossible without parent volunteers. There are many opportunities to use your gifts to make the program run well. Volunteer activities include chaperoning, helping serve food at competitions, and helping with logistics for fundraising events. Below you will find a list of all volunteer jobs. We require that at least one parent per student sign up for at least 4 hours of volunteering during the course of the marching band season. If you are unable to volunteer at any event we ask that you give a \$50 donation to the Aloha Band in place of your time. Volunteer sign-ups for all competitions will come out prior to the first competition.

Marching Band Volunteer Job Descriptions

Lead Chaperone: This person stays with the band at all times. The lead chaperone rides on the bus with the band to, and from the competition. They also follow the band throughout the entire competition. They are responsible for the First Aid pack and the water cart. The lead chaperone will keep the student permission slips with them. This person gets free admission into the competition, and can expect this job to take 12-14 hours. Usually 8AM to 10PM.

Food Volunteer: This person is in charge of providing one meal. Food is purchased by this volunteer, and will be reimbursed by WABPI. Receipts will need to be given to the treasurer. This volunteer will get free admission to the competition. Food suggestions will be provided to these volunteers. Depending on the prep time required for the meal, this job will most likely take about two days, including 2-3 hours on competition.

Hydration Volunteer: This volunteer follows the Lead Chaperone and stays with the band. This person helps keep the band hydrated during warm-ups. This person gets free admission into the competition, and can expect this job to take 12-14 hours. Usually 8AM to 10PM.

Uniform Volunteer: This volunteer makes sure the band uniforms are show ready. They are in charge of cleaning/straightening the uniforms, making sure drum majors have new white gloves and shoes are polished before the band performs. This person gets free admission into the competition, and can expect this job to take 12-14 hours. Usually 8AM to 10PM

Pit Volunteers: This crew is responsible for helping the pit get their instruments from the AHS staging area on to the performance field and off quickly. They are also responsible for loading, unloading the truck as needed for the competition. 3 volunteers are needed for this position. These volunteers get free admission into the competition, and can expect this job to take 12-14 hours. Usually 8AM to 10PM.

Truck Driver: This person is responsible for renting the truck for the band equipment. They will drive ahead of the band bus and arrive early to set up the staging area before the band arrives. WABPI will pay for the truck rental, while this person will pay for any gas used and will be reimbursed by WABPI. Receipts will need to be given to the treasurer. This person gets free admission into the competition, and can expect this job to take 12-14 hours. Usually 8AM to 10PM.

Non-booster Board Year-Long Positions:

Volunteer coordinator: This person is responsible for reaching out to parents when more volunteers are needed for an event. They are also responsible for keeping a list of volunteers that have already signed up for events and sending out reminder e-mails. This person would hold this position for 1 year and can expect to volunteer 2 hours a month, all of which can be done at home.

Grant Writer: This person is responsible for finding grant opportunities and applying for the money on behalf of AHS band. This person needs to have excellent writing skills and be tenacious in hunting for available money. This is a very specialized job and this person will either need to have prior grant writing experience or be willing to learn. This person would hold this position for 1 year and can expect to volunteer 10 hours a month, all of which can be done at home.

Uniform Volunteer: This person is responsible for the marching band uniforms. They make sure the uniforms are cleaned (we have a dry cleaner) and accounted for. This person is also responsible for fitting the band students with their uniform. Uniforms are checked in and out by the students and tracked by this person. This person holds this position for 2 years and can expect volunteer hours to vary by season (ie. competition season/parade season), usually 10-15 hours per week during peak times (3-4 weeks a year)

Color Guard Liaison: This person attends the monthly WABAPI meetings and speaks on behalf of the color guard. This person is preferably a parent of a color guard student. This person would hold this position for 2 years and can expect to volunteer 3 hours a month. ***THIS POSITION IS FILLED FOR 2018-2020***

Dine out Volunteer: This person is responsible for contacting local businesses and arranging dine out nights to raise money for the band. This person will coordinate with the band director and student leadership to promote dine-outs and boost participation. This person would hold this position for 1 year and can expect to volunteer 4-5 hours a month, all of which can be done at home, with the exception of the monthly WABPI meetings.

Website Manager: This person is responsible for maintaining the WABAPI band website. This person would hold this position for 1 year and can expect to volunteer about 2 hours a month, all of which can be done at home.

Aloha High School Marching Ensemble 2019

Practice Days/Times and Competitions

-All practices and competitions are mandatory for participation in the Aloha Marching Ensemble-

Weekly Practice Times:

Tuesday/Thursdays 6:00pm-9:00pm

Non-Game Fridays 6:00pm-9:00pm as needed

Non-Competitions Saturdays 3:00pm-6:00pm

Parade:

September 7th Beaverton Celebration Parade

Competitions:

September 28th Pacific Crest Invitational- Sprague HS Salem, Or

October 5th Sherwood Show- Linfield College McMinnville, Or

October 19th Century Showcase- Hillsboro Stadium Hillsboro, Or

November 2nd NWAPA Championships- Autzen Stadium Eugene, Or

Friday Night Home Football Games:

September 20th

October 4th

October 11th

October 25th

November 11th

Sign-ups for parent volunteers will go out through email and will be completed through signup.com

2019 Contact Information

If you have any questions or concerns, please email anyone on this list. We are all committed to helping you have the best band experience. If you need a ride to or from practice, or competitions, please contact one of us or let your captain know! We will help.

Aliyah Jackson, Band Director.....aliyah_Jackson@beaverton.k12.or.us
Moriah Varadi, Color Guard Director.....moriahvaradi@gmail.com
Brandi Hammond, Booster President.....WBAPI.President.2018@gmail.com
Robin Jackson, Booster Vice President...trjackson1@msn.com
Kristin Killpack, Booster Treasurer.....kakillpack@gmail.com
Tirzah McDowell, Booster Secretary.....tirzah63@gmail.com
Delight Sullivan, Color Guard Liason.....delight.ds.sullivan@gmail.com
Jordan Garrett, Drum Major.....452674@bsd48.org

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Student and Parent Commitment Agreement

Dedication is the cornerstone of the Aloha Band and Auxiliary program. It is imperative that students follow all of the expectations above for the success of the band. If you have any questions about anything outlined in the handbook, please feel free to contact the director or WABPI president.

I have read and understood the student expectations and procedures outlined in the Aloha High School Marching Ensemble Handbook. I understand my responsibility to attend all marching rehearsals and competitions, and a failure to follow these requirements will result in my removal from the marching ensemble.

Student Name (Printed): _____

Student Signature: _____

I understand my responsibility as an Aloha High School Marching Ensemble parent and that volunteering a minimum of 4 hours is required. If I am unable to volunteer, I will make a \$50 donation to WABPI. I understand that my student need

Parent Name (Printed): _____

Parent Signature: _____