COMMUNICATION

Our goal is to keep you informed!

PHONE: (208) 587-2570

REMIND: Codes provided with your specific ensemble.

EMAIL: [webb\_mr@mtnhomesd.org](mailto:webb_mr@mtnhomesd.org)

WEBPAGES: School: <http://webbmr.mtnhomesd.org/> ; Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Mountain-Home-Band-and-Color-Guard-101161811239353/>

GENERAL INFORMATION

As a member of the MHHS Band Program, you will be a part of one of the most *EXCITING* and entertaining programs in the state of Idaho. You must have the motivation, desire, and a willingness to put in the time and energy to continue the success. Band is a group in which strong friendships and lasting relationships develop.

All that will be asked of you is that you follow instructions, understand the policies and rules and obey them, and above all, do your best and HAVE FUN! Having the “right kind” of fun is imperative. The rewards of discipline and hard work will pay off in so many other aspects of your life!

**The following information is important to your success and the success of the organization.** Even though it may seem like “common sense,” don’t take anything for granted. If you have any questions, JUST ASK!

Forms

*Each band member will need to turn in the forms at the back of this Handbook and complete the Athletic Packet the first week of school.* **It is your first assignment for band.** Turning in forms, assignments, and fundraisers when they are due is important! You must have your parents sign the permission form or you will NOT be permitted to travel with the band. The information forms for parents and students help us keep our records up to date.

Rehearsals

Marching band rehearses after school twice a week (Tuesdays and Thursdays) from 3:30 pm-6:30 pm. The color guard and percussion section may rehearse one additional day each week (these will be at the instructor’s discretion). These rehearsals are REQUIRED rehearsals and will affect all students’ grades. **Students who miss any of these rehearsals during a given week may NOT perform with the marching band during the following weekend**, unless otherwise indicated by the director. Students are still expected to attend the performance in full uniform, regardless of whether or not they are performing.

Excused Absences

Band is an activity that requires commitment and planning. We plan rehearsals to minimize the time requirement and maximize the productivity of the band. **When any person is absent from a rehearsal, whether it is for legitimate reasons or not, it affects the group in many ways.** In marching band, when a student is gone from rehearsal, there are “holes” in the marching drill, and it is much more difficult for others to learn. Then, when the student returns to the next rehearsal, it creates tension and confusion on the field when we need to slow down to re-teach the parts that students missed due to absence. Absences can often be avoided by considering the following:

1. Schedule all medical appointments with you band schedule in hand.
2. Sit down with all schedules at the beginning of the year, including sports, family, school, and the calendar included in this handbook.
3. Discuss ALL conflicts with all parties involved as soon as they are noticed. Many students are nervous to discuss conflicts because they feel they are letting people down. You let people down ONLY when you don’t plan ahead and don’t handle conflicts early.
4. Consider ALL commitments as IMPORTANT. In life, it is great to be involved in many things, but be careful not to sacrifice your commitment to one activity for another. If you find yourself doing that, you should reconsider your activity level.
5. FAMILY is your most important commitment. Most of the time, it is also your most flexible – especially with advance notice. Schedule family activities with your commitments in mind.

Even the most responsible students find themselves in the predicament where a scheduling conflict can’t be avoided. When you find that conflict, follow these guidelines:

1. Make an appointment RIGHT AWAY with Miss Webb to discuss the conflict.
2. Access the relative importance of each activity. Performances are more important than rehearsals, just as, in sports, games are more important than practices.
3. Consider compromises. It is always better to “give and take” with both conflicted activities. Is it possible to do part of EACH activity, rather than missing one to go to another? Also, it shows responsibility toward your commitments to compromise. Of course, some things are more difficult, and sometimes impossible, to compromise.
4. Consider the consequences and communicate those to all parties involved. Is missing that practice going to mean you won’t be able to play in the next game? Will missing rehearsal lower your grade? Are you willing to live with those consequences?
5. Realize that working commitments are NOT considered excusable. Every working conflict that has ever been dealt with has been the result of students not planning. However, if your boss schedules you to work during a band commitment, let Miss Webb know ASAP.
6. *All absences must be excused in WRITING.* Fill out an “Excused Absence Form” available in the band room. Your parents must sign the form! Give the form to Miss Webb PRIOR to the missed rehearsal.

School Activity Conflicts

What if I’m involved in other activities and sports?

* Students involved in other MHHS activities who find they have a conflict with rehearsals or performances must fill out an Excused Absence Request Form stating where they will be on the conflicted date. The student, director, and the coach or advisor for the activity must all sign this form and the form must be turned into Miss Webb at least 2 weeks in advance of the conflict.
* Students are always to attend the more important activity
* A conflict occurs when two activities overlap so that it is impossible (not just inconvenient) for the student to attend both activities. Students must make every effort to fulfill the requirements of all activities in which they choose to participate.
* A student absent from a band activity due to a MHHS conflict but who has not turned in a signed conflict form may be counted as unexcused and will receive no credit towards the grade for the rehearsal, concert, or performance.

**WHEN THESE ACTIVITIES OVERLAP:** **STUDENT SHOULD ATTEND:**

Music Practice/Sports Game **Sports Game**

Music Performance/Sports Practice **Music Performance**

Music Practice/Sports Practice **Split overlapping time evenly with both**

Music Performance/Sports Game (YIKES!!) **Discuss conflict with coach and director**

**to discuss a possible solution or**

**compromise**

Tardies & Absences

Tardies in class or at rehearsals will not be tolerated. This includes extra rehearsals, as well as class time. Excessive absences may mean expulsion from performances, a possible lowered grade, or removal from the band program.

*EXCELLENCE:*

“Excellence is not a skill, it’s an attitude.”

-Ralph Marston

***Mountain Home High School students, grades 9-12, and Mountain Home Junior High School students, grades 7-8 exceeding nine (9) days of absences in each class period of the semester may result in retention or a denial of credit. In enforcing the attendance requirements, the Board may deny a promotion to the next grade or deny credit to any student who is not in school for this required time. If a student is determined to be a habitual truant, the Board may expel or disenroll the student (I.C. 33-205 – Denial of School Attendance).***

If you are late to marching band rehearsal, check in with your section leader, who will then report to the drum major(s), who will report to Miss Webb. If you do not, you may be marked absent by mistake.

**Band Class Schedule**

*Fall Semester*

**MTRF:**

5th per. Jazz Band

6th per. Marching/Concert Band

7th per. Percussion Class

**A Day (Tuesday):**

5th per. Jazz Band

7th per. Percussion Class

**B Day/Early Start(Weds.):**

6th per. Marching/Concert Band

*Spring Semester*

**MTRF**

5th per. Jazz Band

6th per. Concert Band

7th per. Music Theory

**A Day (Tuesday):**

5th per. Jazz Band

7th per. Music Theory

**B Day/Early Start (Weds.):**

6th per. Concert Band

MARCHING BAND

**Remind Code: Text @ab2272 to 81010**

Band Camp

Band camp is not only important to our success, it is also a great time to get to know the new members and get back into the swing of things in the new school year. We learn a great deal during camp, including much of the marching fundamentals and the music for pep band and our field show. It is IMPERATIVE that everyone is there! If there is a conflict, you need to contact Miss Webb ASAP!

Here is some other important info about Band Camp:

* *Wear cool, comfortable, easy-to-move-in clothes and TENNIS SHOES (NO SANDALS, FLIP-FLOPS, ETC.*
  + You should not wear jeans, denim shorts, heavy shirts or pants. (They greatly limit movement)
  + Your clothing has a good chance of getting dirty, so it is not advisable to wear your best clothes.
    - Also, dark colored clothing is not advisable as it can cause you to overheat faster.
    - *Temperatures can up past the 90s, please make sure you are dressed for the weather!!!!*
  + **SCHOOL DRESS CODE POLICIES IS TO BE FOLLOWED AT ALL TIMES!**
    - The following are some of the clothing items prohibited by the MHHS Student Handbook p. 20:
    - **Clothing that does not cover the stomach, back, chest/cleavage, or undergarments.**
    - **Tank tops that are less than 3 fingers width, spaghetti straps, tube tops, off the shoulder shirts.**
    - **Short shorts without something under them i.e. spandex used under short shorts.**
    - **Obscene or vulgar messages of any kind on clothing or other areas are not allowed.**
    - **Clothing may not use or depict hate speech targeting groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation or any other protected groups.**
    - **Boys must wear their shirt at all times.**
    - **THESE RULES APPLY TO BOTH GIRLS AND BOYS.**
    - *Students will get sent home if they are not wearing the appropriate attire.*
* ***Hats are very useful during band camp.***
  + One lesson that everyone learns during their first band camp is that your head can burn and peel along with the rest of your body!
* **SUNBLOCK!!!!!!!**
  + Everyone burns differently, so be prepared to protect yourself. Put sunblock on in the morning and bring some to reapply later during the day.
* **Have bug spray handy as well!**
  + Mosquitos are overwhelming this time of year and can carry diseases.
* **WATER IS A NECESSITY!!!!!**
  + Everyone MUST bring water jugs, camel bag, or a Coleman brand type thermos filled with water (freeze some ice in it the night before)
  + We have had students pass out due to dehydration and heat exhaustion in the past so please be mindful of your health and well-being!!!!!

Camp Schedule

The MHHS Band Camp will have two sessions throughout each day. (Morning and Afternoon)

The morning session will used to focus on marching fundamentals and techniques since the temperatures tend to be cooler. The afternoon sessions will be focused more towards music fundamentals and sectionals in the music room since the temperature is a lot warmer. *Marching fundamentals may also take place towards the end of the afternoon session, depending on the weather.*

Students will have 3 hour lunch block from 12:00-3:00 each day to cool off and have some down time between sessions. Carl Miller has a free lunch program for students from 12:00 pm-1:00 pm every day as an option. This time may also be used for extra sectionals or individual practice.



Football Games

Please be aware of the following guidelines for football games. If students do not follow the rules, their grade may be affected, or they may be asked to leave the game.

* **ONLY BAND STUDENTS WILL SIT IN THE BAND SEATING AREA IN THE STANDS DURING FOOTBALL GAMES**
  + Your friends or significant others will have to sit in another area if they are not in the band.
  + It doesn’t look professional when students who are not in uniform sit with the band. It is also a distraction.
* **NO ONE IS ALLOWED TO LEAVE THE STANDS DURING THE GAME UNLESS EXCUSED BY THE DIRECTOR**
  + The DIRECTOR (not the drum major or section leader) will excuse students to go to the restroom in pairs during the game.
* **THERE IS NO DRINKING OR EATING IN UNIFORM AT ANY TIME. (*Exceptions can be made if necessary)***
  + Students will need to plan accordingly (pack a snack or lunch to eat before the game).
  + Students who are found eating in uniform may be asked to leave the game and will receive no points for the game.
    - Exceptions are made on a case-by-case basis.
* **UNIFORMS ARE TO BE WORN FOR THE ENTIRE GAME.**
  + UNLESS, Miss Webb says otherwise.
  + To keep up the best possible appearance for the crowd, we wear our uniform in “performance ready” fashion at all times.
    - This will also prevent uniform items from getting lost.
* **ALL WIND AND PERCUSSION PLAYERS *MUST* HAVE THEIR STAND TUNES WITH THEM AT EVERY GAME.**
  + It’s important that we sound our best at all times, not just on the field.
  + Students are not expected to memorize the stand tunes, but they must have their music with them.
* **THERE WILL BE A UNIFORM INSPECTION BEFORE EACH GAME.**
  + Students must wear **BLACK** **CREW SOCKS** and a uniform that is clean and fully intact to receive points for that game. If a uniform is wrinkled, excessively dirty, or missing items such as gloves, gauntlets, etc., that student may not be permitted to perform.
  + NO excessive make-up or large jewelry are to be worn while in uniform.
  + Hair dyes need to be inconspicuous. Under hair is fine, but full head color is not.

Music

During your first band class, you will receive your show music and your pep band music. This year we will be using the pep band book, which the band program will provide to you. You are responsible for your music and keeping it organized. DO NOT LOSE YOUR MUSIC!!!

Please have all music at every rehearsal, even when it’s memorized. You will be charged $1.00 per replacement of music.

**Preparation of Music:**

You will be required to memorize the music played on the field. (The National Anthem, The Fight Song, and the Show Music)

Section Leaders will be individually tested by Miss Webb inside or outside of rehearsal time. Students will be tested by their section leaders and will report back to Miss Webb.

You will be graded on a pass/fail system. In order to receive an “A” for a particular test, you must successfully complete your test by the given date (and so on for a “B”, or any other grade). Students who have not passed their music test by the time we perform a given piece of the show may not be eligible to perform until they do pass.

Pep Band

The pep band’s primary function is to increase the excitement and spirit at pep rallies and Varsity Basketball Games. We are there to entertain the crowd and motivate our team!

**Membership/Attendance:**

Membership of the pep band can consist of students from all band classes (marching, concert, jazz, and percussion ensemble).

Pep Band is open to all band students, but we will be holding auditions this year for the pep band. Members who audition and make it are REQUIRED to attend 80% of the pep band games in order to remain in the pep band.

* If you cannot make it to 80% of the games, but would still like to perform with the pep band, please let Miss Webb know and we will work something out.

Attendance is defined as not only showing up to the game but showing up in full uniform and actively participating throughout events.

**District/State Basketball:**

Every season our teams play a couple of home district games that may possibly advance them to the State Tournament. These dates are not predetermined as it depends on the team’s ranking within the district.

State Basketball occurs in February (Girls) and March (Boys). The pep band will be attending these games and these games are always away in the Treasure Valley.



Concert Band

**Remind Code: Text @mhhsconc to 81010**

Concert band season starts immediately after marching band season. The band performs 2 school concerts (Winter and Spring), and the large group festival in the Spring. This year, we are hoping to have the concert band tour to the elementary schools and middle school in the Spring. Details for this event are still TBD.

Classroom Expectations

* **Behavior:**
  + Students will be expected to follow all classroom rules and procedures put in place by Miss Webb.
  + Students will conduct themselves in a professional manner. *“Practice how you would perform, every practice is a performance.”*
  + Any behavior that takes away from you or others learning, will result in a lowered grade.
* **Cell Phone Policy:**
  + Cell phones are NOT allowed in class under any circumstances!
  + Any student caught with their cell phone out will receive one warning.
    - Any additional warnings will result in the phone being confiscated and sent to the office until parents/guardians retrieve the phone.
* **Assignments/Classroom Participation:**
  + Band is a performance-based curriculum, meaning everything we do in class, from the time you get your instrument set up from the time you put it away, is an assignment!
  + Students will actively participate in classroom activities to receive full credit.
    - **Students who are using rehearsal time to do homework, read books, play on electronic devices, etc. will receive a zero for the day.**
  + Playing tests will be administered throughout the year. These will either be assigned as homework or “pop quiz” style in class.
    - Like marching band, these will be graded on a pass/fail system. Students will need to complete their playing test before the listed due date in order to receive full credit.
    - Students who submit their playing tests past the given due date will result in a full letter grade deduction.

***It is important the students are practicing their music outside of class in order to be*** ***better prepared for the tests.***

Performances, just like for Marching and Jazz Band are MANDATORY! If you have any conflicts with performances, you need to notify Miss Webb ASAP and refer to the guidelines listed “Excused Absences/Tardies & Absence” clauses in the Marching Band section of the handbook.

Jazz Band

**Remind Code: Text @mhhsja to 81010**

Jazz students are involved in performance, applied comprehension, music theory, and creativity. It is the skill of improvisation technique that separates Jazz from other forms of music.

The Jazz Band will perform 2 concerts during the school year. The Jazz band may also perform at the DIV Jazz festival, provided the instrumentation is there.

Classroom Expectations

* **Behavior:**
  + Students will be expected to follow all classroom rules and procedures put in place by Miss Webb.
  + Students will conduct themselves in a professional manner. *“Practice how you would perform, every practice is a performance.”*
  + Any behavior that takes away from you or other learning, will result in a lowered grade.
* **Cell Phone Policy:**
  + Cell phones are NOT allowed in class under any circumstances!
  + Any student caught with their cell phone out will receive one warning.
    - Any additional warnings will result in the phone being confiscated and sent to the office until parents/guardians retrieve the phone.
* **Assignments/Classroom Participation:**
  + Band is a performance-based curriculum, meaning everything we do in class, from the time you get your instrument set up from the time you put it away, is an assignment!
  + Students will actively participate in classroom activities to receive full credit.
    - **Students who are using rehearsal time to do homework, read books, play on electronic devices, etc. will receive a zero for the day.**
  + Playing tests will be administered throughout the year. These will either be assigned as homework or “pop quiz” style in class.
    - Like marching band, these will be graded on a pass/fail system. Students will need to complete their playing test before the listed due date in order to receive full credit.
    - Students who submit their playing tests past the given due date will result in a full letter grade deduction.

***It is important the students are practicing their music outside of class in order to be better prepared for the tests.***

Performances, just like in Marching or Concert band, are MANDATORY! If you have any conflicts with performances, you need to notify Miss Webb ASAP! Please refer to the guidelines listed in the Marching Band section of the handbook.

Traveling with the band

**Traveling Home with Parents**

Travelling home with parents is not permitted unless prior arrangements have been made with Miss Webb. Upon returning home from events, students are responsible for unloading equipment and turning in uniforms. For these reasons, we only allow students to ride home from events with parents when there are extenuating circumstances. Please follow these guidelines:

1. Students may not ride with parents/guardians just for convenience. Please do not ask to do this. If parents/guardians ride to an event to cheer us on, that’s great! However, you will still need to pick your student up at the band room upon return.
2. An example of extenuating circumstance that would warrant a student riding home with their parents would be if the parents/guardians were leaving to a different destination directly from the event or an emergency situation.
3. If that were the case, the parent/guardian will need to write a note. **The note needs to be in Miss Webb’s hands *before* the band leaves to go to the event.**
4. Miss Webb will need to see the parent to verify that the student is, in fact, leaving with the parents/guardians. This also lets Miss Webb know when you are leaving and not under the school’s responsibility.
5. Students will not, under ***any*** circumstances, be permitted to drive with anyone other than their own parents/guardians.
6. Students will not be permitted to drive themselves to or from an event.
7. Students must stay for the entire event before leaving with their parents/guardians, unless prior arrangements have been made with Miss Webb. (The best time to meet to be released is at the bus just as we are taking attendance before we leave.)

**Trip Expectations**

Before attending major trips, students and parents will sign an agreement, say that while on the trip the student:

* Will represent the school well by my musicianship and behavior
* Will follow the rule: If in doubt don’t, “just do it” ask first.
* Will be alert to changes in schedules
* Will stay with assigned bus seats unless given permission by Miss Webb or a designated chaperone.
* Will speak respectfully to all adult leaders and fellow travelers.
* Will follow policies set by the professional bus driver.
* Will stay in bus seats at all stops until released by Miss Webb.
* Will be at assigned locations on time and stay with the group at all times.
* Will stay in groups of at least 4 when not with the whole group.
* **WILL NOT DRINK ALCOHOL, TAKE ANY DRUG THAT IS NOT ON MY PERMISSION FORM, SMOKE, OR VAPE.**
* **Will refrain from participating in PDA (Public Display of Affection- anything more physical than holding hands is inappropriate)**
  + Will understand that after one warning about PDA, I will be separated on that bus, and after a second incident I will be moved to another bus for the remainder of the trip (if applicable).
* Will clean up after myself on the bus.
* Will spend my money wisely, considering the needs of the whole trip.
* Will bring only the instrument that I play for the performance.
* Will be responsible for my equipment, my uniform and its parts, and any personal items throughout the entire trip.

CONSEQUENCES

of Bad Choices and Behavior

**First offense:** Call home to the parent. Student is assigned to a chaperone for the remainder of the trip. Possible exclusion from activities.

**Second Offense:** Student is sent home at parent’s expense, or parent will come and get the student.

**FOR MAJOR OFFENSES: THE FIRST STEP MAY BE SKIPPED AS DEEMED NECESSARY BY MISS WEBB.**

**UNIFORMS**

This section of the handbook is meant to answer questions and serve as a reference for you as to what your uniforms consist of, care of the uniforms, and your responsibility for the uniforms.

**MARCHING BAND UNIFORMS**

*FOR WINDS AND PERCUSSIONISTS:*

The marching band uniform consists of a band t-shirt, pants, jacket, gauntlets, cape, black crew socks, and black marching band shoes. The band will provide the pants, jacket, gauntlets, and capes. You will be responsible for purchasing a band t-shirt (which will be kept at the lowest cost possible) and black socks.

Underclothing of the band t-shirt, a solid black t-shirt, black shorts, or spandex is required to keep the uniform in good shape and clean.

Your uniform will have been cleaned prior to distribution. It is your responsibility to keep your uniform in good condition throughout the season, and to keep track of each part assigned to you. Correct uniform wear and care will be demonstrated during the beginning of the season.

Before every performance, it is your responsibility to check out your uniform from the uniform closet. After every performance, you must check your uniform back to the uniform closet.

The uniform is property of Mountain Home High School, and all parts must be returned in the same condition as when checked out to you. The student and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) are responsible for replacing lost or damaged uniforms or parts of uniforms. If you lose a uniform part, contact either Miss Webb or a uniform parent immediately.

Uniforms will be worn properly at all times. We are only as good as we look. The band uniform is a symbol of pride and dignity to many people. Treat it with the upmost respect at all times. Never allow anyone else to wear any part of your uniform. No hats can be worn while in uniform. All students must have their hair *entirely* up or pulled back during a performance. **No wind or percussion players may wear excessive make-up or large jewelry while in uniform, and all male band members who choose to have facial hair must keep it well-groomed.**

***FOR COLOR GUARD MEMBERS:***

You will be responsible for your uniform. The performance uniform will be available for ordering at the beginning of the season. The performance uniform will be worn for all performances. All rules and policies mentioned above (in the Winds and Percussion section) or anywhere else in the Band Handbook apply equally to members of the color guard while in uniform. Color Guard members may wear makeup as it is a part of the uniform. **NO large jewelry will be permitted while in uniform.**

**PEP BAND UNIFORM**

All pep band members will wear their marching band t-shirt from the same school year (or a solid black t-shirt) along with jeans and comfortable shoes.

**No ripped jeans or open-toe shoes**

**CONCERT BAND UNIFORM**

For all Concert Band performances the uniform is as follows:

Black Shirt (polo, button up, collared) or blouse NO T-SHIRTS

Black pants/slacks or skirt **(must follow school dress code)**

Black crew socks

Black shoes (no tennis shoes)

**JAZZ BAND UNIFORM**

For all Jazz Band performances the uniform is as follows:

Black shirt (polo, button up, collared) or blouse NO T-SHIRTS

Bowties (will be provided)

Black slacks or skirt **(must follow school dress code)**

Black crew socks

Black shoes (no tennis shoes)

Students are responsible for having all the appropriate elements of their uniform for all concert and festival performances. Students who are not wearing the appropriate uniform may not be allowed to perform with the ensemble and will lose points in their performance grade.

