



Scott Siegel, Band Director

Manheim Township High School
115 Blue Streak Boulevard
Lancaster, PA 17601
Office: 717.560.3097, ext. 7930
Email: siegelsc@mtwp.net

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Hello, MTMB Students and Parents!

What an Amazing Week!

This past week at band camp was GREAT! Despite the heat and losing some time on Monday to the weather, everyone worked hard each day and learned the entire opener, ballad, and percussion feature to the show...as well as the first third of the closer.. That's a huge accomplishment!

Our staff went above and beyond (some even used their vacation time from work) so students could get the instruction and support they needed to grow their skills and make outstanding progress. And behind the scenes, our amazing band parents kept everyone going strong by donating drinks, snacks, and volunteering their time for our "juice" breaks.

It truly was a GREAT week... and I'm excited for even more excellence in the week ahead! As we continue into the last week of the pre-season, here are a few important MTMB updates. Please read this document thoroughly and contact [Mr. Siegel](#) with any questions you have.

Cheering Each Other On!

- A huge thank you to Mrs. Spealman, Mr. Spealman, and Mrs. Rosario (and others!) for organizing juice breaks, hauling ice, setting up coolers, and cleaning up every day.
- A big shoutout to the MTMBB Board for bringing Kona Ice to camp on Wednesday (perfect on a really hot day!) and for sponsoring this coming Saturday night's Pool Party!
- Another huge thank you to the Mrs. McCardell (and family), the MTMBB Board, and all our volunteers who helped make Friday's Family Picnic such a fun and memorable event for both students and families. STAFF CRUSHED!
- Uniform Fittings: Thanks to Mrs. Gallelo and all the parent volunteers for making fittings smooth and efficient!
- Alumni Shoutouts: Congrats to alum Paxton Simmons ('25) on finishing 7th at DCI World Championships with Phantom Regiment! Best wishes to alums Gregory Kensey ('26) and George Panagopoulos ('26) as they audition for the Penn State Blue Band this week! Best wishes to staff member Maggie Spealman ('23) as she begins her tenure as drum major of the Temple University Diamond Marching Band!

Absence Reminder

Attendance at all rehearsals and performances is mandatory. Exceptions are for illness, emergencies, or religious observances (verified by parent or doctor note). Missing a day of band camp is like missing a week

of regular season rehearsals! If you need to be absent at the last minute, please email [Mr. Siegel](#). If you need to request an excused absence for a future date, please use this Google Form: [LINK](#).

Communication: Join the REMIND app for instant updates when they happen. The codes are available on Schoology!

Band Camp Information

Please review the document linked [HERE](#) for schedules and specific information.

Breaks & Meals

- Water Breaks: 1-2 minute breaks given approx. every 15-20 minutes depending on the weather. More frequent when the temperature is above 90 degrees. Stay hydrated!
- Dinner: Bring food; no deliveries or off-campus trips. Leave the space better than you found it by cleaning up after yourself.

What to Bring

Instrument/guard gear, music binder, set book, pencil, clips, water, hat, sunscreen, bug spray, sunglasses, athletic shoes/socks, dress code-appropriate clothing.

This Week's Schedule & Important Rehearsal Expectations

This week, we'll be shifting to late-afternoon and evening schedules because of teacher inservice. The rehearsal time is shorter so every minute counts. To stay in strong shape, move in unison on the field, and keep improving our show, it's important that all band members give their best effort during the entire rehearsal. Stay focused and engaged.

This Week's Schedule - Band Camp Week 3

- Monday, August 17 - Practice 4-9 PM (Doors open 3:30 PM) *Bring a dinner.*
- Tuesday, August 18 - Practice 4-9 PM (Doors open 3:30 PM) *Bring a dinner.*
 - Be in Uniform for Band Photos no later than 3:50 PM.
 - Dinner Break will be shorter than usual, so plan accordingly.
 - We'll have our first "stands music" rehearsal outside of the Literacy Fest Event.
 - We hope to get about 45 minutes of stadium time after Literacy Day to run segments and the entire show.
- Wednesday, August 19 - Practice 4-9 PM (Doors open 3:30 PM) *Bring a dinner.*
 - This is our dress rehearsal for our performance this week!
- Thursday, August 20 - Public Premier Performance 4-8 PM (Doors open 3:30 PM) *Bring a dinner.*
 - Warmup and Walkthrough Practice @ 4:00 PM
 - Dinner from 5:45-6:15 PM.
 - Get Into Uniform and Warmup 6:15-7:00 PM
 - March to Stadium and PERFORM @ 7:00 PM
 - Ice Cream Social to follow...

Equipment Squad

Members of the E-Squad should read the information shared earlier this weekend [HERE](#). Then, follow the schedule linked [HERE](#).

The Equipment Squad dress code is all black, or as close as you can get. T-shirts and casual wear are totally fine; this is not the concert band. 😊 If you don't have all black, get as dark as you can. Please minimize the artwork on shirts if possible, but don't feel the need to run out and purchase additional clothes for this role.

Please let me know if you have any questions or are unable to attend, need to be late/leave early from any scheduled event using the absence request form mentioned earlier.. THANK YOU!

Arrival and Dismissal

- **For Rehearsals:** Parents may drop off in the high school car rider loop on either side of the school. Student drivers may park in the auditorium parking lot. Rehearsals will end promptly at their scheduled time or a few minutes before. Parents may wait to pick up their bander in the car rider loop (*stay in the right lane please - leave the left lane open for traffic to pass*) or the auditorium parking lot of the high school (*please use a parking space so you do not block parked cars from exiting. Thank you!*) Students have responsibilities to complete at the end of rehearsal relative to cleaning up instruments, materials, and supplies. It may be a few minutes past dismissal time before students start making their way out. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Picture Day

On Tuesday, August 18, Wendy L Productions will be on site to take the official large group, section, and individual band photos for this season.

Each student will receive a picture order form at Monday's rehearsal. It can also be downloaded from Schoology or the [Band Website](#). There is no obligation to purchase photos, however we ask that every student be photographed even if not ordering for our end of season memory book (*and in case you change your mind later.*) If you are ordering photos, please bring the form and payment with you to the photo shoot and hand it directly to the photographer when your individual photo takes place or you may order using the QR code on the form. The deadline to order is August 25th. Photos will be delivered to the HS Band Room approximately September 8th.

Band members should report to the band room with enough time to be in uniform (jacket and bibs only - no gloves, gauntlets, hats/plumes, or dinkles) by 3:50pm. Instructions will be given at that time as we transit to the MS Gym for the photo session. The large group photo will be taken first, followed by sections as listed in this schedule:

- Full Group = 4:00 PM
- Drum Majors = 4:15 PM
- Field Percussion 4:20 PM
- Low Brass = 4:40 PM
- Horns = 4:50 PM
- Trumpets = 5:00 PM
- Saxophones = 5:10 PM
- Clarinets = 5:20 PM
- Flutes/Piccolos = 5:30 PM

- Color Guard = 5:40 PM
- Sideline Percussion & E-Squad = 5:50 PM

Drum Majors and Student Leaders will be responsible to ensure everyone is ready for your section/individual photo at the assigned time, even if the photographer is running behind schedule.

After your photo time, section leaders should bring their sections back to the HS to put uniforms away properly. Then, sections may warm up and rehearse the Star Spangled Banner, other "stands" music (drumline grooves and cadence) until dinner break at 6:00pm

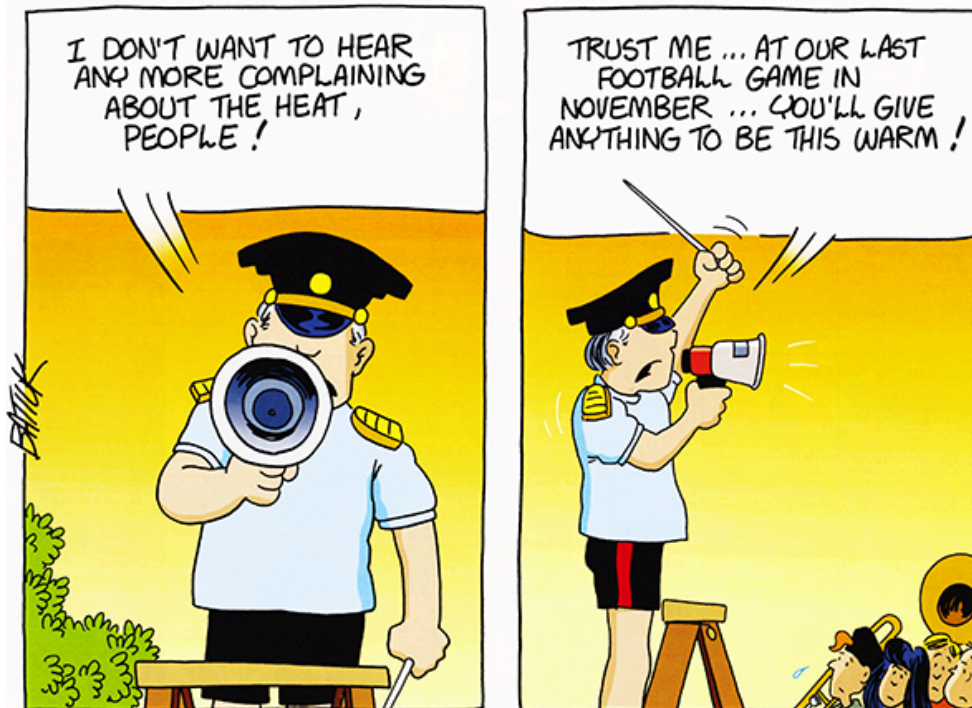
Literacy Event

The band will transit to the stadium around 6:20pm to be part of this year's MTSD Literacy Event. We will play stands tunes from 6:30-7:15ish, then we will take time to read with kids in the stadium and show off our instruments from 7:15-8:00pm. After the event ends, we'll take a break to set up for rehearsal which should begin around 8:15pm. Please wear your blue MTMB shirt for this event!

Final Thoughts

Enjoy this final week of the pre-season as we perform for our families and community, and as we take our next steps on this journey together! There is so much to be excited about. Continue to work hard, make good choices, and together we are going to do GREAT things!

~Mr. Siegel



"We forget: In life, it doesn't matter what happens to you or where you came from.

It matters what you do with what happens and what you've been given."

— Ryan Holiday, *The Obstacle Is the Way: The Timeless Art of Turning Trials into Triumph*