



NEWNAN BANDS

2026-2027 Marching Cats Member Contract

Dear Parents and Students

Thank you for your interest in the 2026-2027 Newnan High School Band Program. We have many exciting opportunities this year, and we are ready to build a team to continue the legacy of excellence that has come to define the Newnan High School Band Program. Please review this packet carefully as it contains important information.

A few things about the Newnan High School Band Program

The central ensemble at Newnan High School is the concert band program. The marching band, music classes, solo and ensemble, all state, jazz band, WGI Winds Ensemble, percussion ensemble, and pep band all work hand-in-hand to develop a strong concert program. Concert band is our focus as it leads students to earn a scholarship and have life long musical opportunities. Marching Band is not “Extra Curricular,” it is co-curricular. It is an important part of the concert curriculum where we teach real-time performance objectives and prepare students for big collegiate and professional performances.

Mission Statement of the Newnan Marching Cats

“The mission of the Newnan High School Marching Cats is to make a positive difference in the lives of band members by providing musical and visual experiences and performances, and to assist them in achieving their potential as they develop confidence, cooperation, leadership, responsibility, and high standards of excellence and character.”

The Goals of Marching Band

- Each member will strive for **high standards of excellence**.
- Each member will develop a sense of **responsibility** for attendance, preparation, and each other.
- Each member will expand his/her **awareness** in rehearsal and performance to enhance the overall individual ensemble quality.
- Each member will develop **self-discipline** in and out of rehearsals.

Motto:

“Our Best for Newnan and for Each Other.”

Our Expectations

1. **Show Respect:** *Respect yourself. Respect others. Respect the band facilities, traditions, equipment, and uniforms.*
2. **Be Prepared:** *Marching band members are responsible for doing their best, working on their individual skills and practicing. All equipment must be brought to rehearsals as requested. Students must attend school at least half of the day to attend rehearsals and performances.*
3. **Be on Time:** *Students should arrive at the rehearsal facility 15 minutes before the rehearsal is scheduled to begin in order to be ready to start on time. If you count on someone else to get a ride to practice, tell him or her the time that you have to be there, not the time that rehearsal begins.*

Attendance Policy

Expectations: You have made a *commitment* to be in the marching band for the entire season. *Everyone is counting on you!* In order to have successful band rehearsals and performances, it is essential that we have full attendance. **The absence of one person not only affects that person, but also the entire group.** The critical factors of uniformity, balance, spacing, and alignment cannot be improved or maintained with absences.

Legitimate Excuses: Legitimate excuses for rehearsal or performance are illness, accident, serious illness/death in the family, and emergency doctors appointments. If possible, contact the directors to notify them of absence prior to the actual date. **Students must bring an excuse note from a parent including parent signature and phone number following any absence.** An unexcused absence results in consequences (see consequence section in this document). Absences, tardiness, leaving early for work are not excused.

While we allow a student to have 1 unexcused absence for any reason, this absence may not occur the week of the competition, at a performance, during the staging camps, or any of the drill camps. Missing those events will result in an automatic dismissal from the group.

Be aware that even if you have a legitimate excuse to miss a practice, you may still lose your spot on the field for a segment of music or drill that you missed while you were away from practice. The show must go on, and we do not slow down when a student is absent.

Ask: When in doubt, always ask a band director. This will solve a variety of problems including issues related to attendance.

Newnan High School Marching Band Fair Share Fee Dates

Spot Acceptance May - \$100.00

This money is due immediately following auditions to reserve your spot.

1. June - \$100.00
2. July - \$100.00
3. August \$100

Total: \$400, plus participation in 2 large band fundraisers

**Color Guard has an added \$125 nonrefundable uniform fee due before the end of May*

Note: All money is due each month regardless of your level of participation in the provided fundraisers.

****When a student misses a payment, we are not able to pay their associated fees. This means that the student will not be eligible to travel, receive their uniform or participate with the group.***

**All fees are non refundable.*

Band Payments should be made online at NewnanBand.org using the “click here to pay band fees” link. When you have made this payment, please forward your email receipt to katherine.prisant@cowetaschools.net.

Practice/Performance Schedule

- Please see the rehearsal schedule linked to the presentation and also on the band website/calendar
- Be aware that we rehearse on school holidays and weekends.
- 100% attendance at events is mandatory

Social Media Policy

Students should be aware that they are responsible for posts on their personal social media platforms. Students are encouraged to share their experiences on social media in a positive manner. However, students and parents agree to refrain from posting negative or unverified comments about the band, guard, or band boosters on social media. Posting hurtful information on social media may result in consequences, up to and including removal from the Newnan Band program. This includes posting hurtful comments or information about fellow band/team members outside of band practice. In summary, all posts related to the band and band members should be positive or not posted at all. Should you have a problem to be addressed, please see directors or an administrator so it can be resolved appropriately.

Consequences:

- If a student has 2 unexcused absences from rehearsal, they may be removed from a performance. Upon the 3rd missed rehearsal, the student will no longer be allowed to march in the show.
- A student may be removed from a performance immediately following an absence regardless of it being excused or unexcused.
- All performances are mandatory. If a student misses a performance, they may be removed from the show.

Suspensions

A school suspension of a student may result in the loss of some, if not all, privileges and continuation in marching band and will be left up to the discretion of the Band Directors and/or school administration.

Newnan High School 2026-2027 Marching Band Contract

Name of Student: _____

By signing this contract we (my guardian and I) agree that we have read the information regarding our expectations for membership in the Newnan High School Marching Band. We have reviewed the fee schedule and agree to pay the fees as stated. We have also reviewed all required forms and are aware that they are required for participation. Furthermore, we realize we are representatives of Newnan High School and will conduct ourselves in a respectful manner at all times.

_____(initial) I/we have received the payment amounts and due dates totaling \$400 (plus guard fee , if applicable) and agree to make these payments. Should a student quit for any reason, no money will be refunded.

_____(initial) I/we have read the expectations and consequences section. I/we understand the policy on rehearsal attendance as well as mandatory performance attendance. This means that I could be removed from a performance or from the group for absences.

_____(initial) I/we also understand that if a staging rehearsal is missed for any reason, I will not be in the new parts of the show that were learned. This includes rehearsal dates that are on holidays, weekends and teacher workdays.

_____(initial) I/we give NHS Bands permission to photograph and video my student (for show videos, website and competition programs).

_____(initial) I/we have read the social media policy in this packet.

_____(initial) I/we understand that marching band shoes cost \$56 and this is an added fee for all members who need marching shoes.

_____(initial) I/we have read this entire student handbook packet and are aware of the policies regarding membership for the 2026-2027 school year.

Please sign and return this contract page, along with the Student Information/Contact page of the handbook, and the \$100 deposit by the end of May.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____