



Cat Slade, Director of Bands
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7 October 2026

Dear Band Parents and Students,

Our students will have multiple performance opportunities in the upcoming part of the 2026-2027 school year. Review the upcoming trips and complete the Parental Consent for School Trips Form. The Leesville Road High School Band Middle School Night, Elementary School Trips, and MPA festival are **required*** trips for the listed ensembles.

To make things simple, we're providing all the details now so you'll only need to sign one consent form covering all trips. If you decline a trip, please ~~cross it out~~ on the field trip form. Providing this information upfront also gives us a chance to invite your support - parent volunteers are a big part of what makes these events successful, and we can't wait to partner with you in cheering on our students.

November 17, 2026

WHO: 8th Grade (required)

WHAT: Participate in the Leesville Road High School Band Middle School Night

WHERE: Leesville Road High School

SCHEDULE:

3:00 Meet in the Band Room
3:15 Load Activity Bus
3:30 Meet in the LRHS Band Room
3:50 Small Groups: Marching Band/Color Guard, Q&A and Games, Sectionals
5:15 **PARENT MEETING**
5:40 Pizza for Students
6:10 Performance for Parents
6:30 Dismissal from LRHS

UNIFORM: Red t-shirt or Pine Hollow Middle t-shirt, comfortable bottoms, comfortable shoes

MATERIALS: Instrument

FEE: Free

TRANSPORTATION: Activity Bus - Parents may opt to pick up their students from PHMS and take them to LRHS by 3:30. Just ~~cross out~~ this field trip on the form. **Pick up is at LRHS at 6:30 PM.** Hopefully, all parents will come to the parent meeting at 5:15 PM and watch the performance at 6:10 PM.

VOLUNTEERS: It will be helpful to have 2 parents meet us at LRHS and just be present. You can bring work, a book to read, or entertainment while the students are participating in the events. Please let Mrs. Slade know if you are available to be present.

November 20, 2026

WHO: Students who successfully pass the audition on October 27.

WHAT: All County Band Clinic & Concert

DETAILS: Details will be provided directly to the students who are participating.

December 17, 2026

WHO: 8th Grade Band (required) AND 8th Grade Chorus

WHAT: Brier Creek Elementary to inform rising 6th graders about their performing options in middle school.

WHERE: Brier Creek Elementary

SCHEDULE:

11:30	Gather in Band and Chorus rooms, respectively.
11:40	Load & Leave PHMS
11:50	Arrive at Brier Creek Elementary
12:10-12:50	Perform for 5 th Grade
1:00	Leave Brier Creek Elementary
1:15	Arrive at PHMS
1:30	Eat a bag lunch from home (or request a bag lunch from the cafeteria) in the band room

UNIFORM: Band: Dark red t-shirt, long blue jeans, comfortable shoes

MATERIALS: Instrument, Music, and a Portable Music Stand

FEE: Free

TRANSPORTATION: Activity Bus

NEEDS: Two parent volunteers are needed to transport band instruments on this trip. Any size vehicle will help! Volunteers must be registered through WCPSS <https://www.wcpss.net/volunteer>. You are able to register for multiple schools at one time. Please contact Mrs. Slade through Talking Points or email (cslade@wcpss.net) if you are interested in helping.

January 16-20, 2027

WHO: Students who signed up

WHAT: Universal Studios Workshop & CityWalk Performance

DETAILS: Details have been provided directly to the students who are participating. There will be a required after-school rehearsal at the beginning of January. Date TBD.

January 29 - 30, 2027 (Snow Days: February 5-6, 2027)

WHO: Students who successfully passed the audition on January 9, 2027

WHAT: All District Band Clinic & Concert

DETAILS: Details will be provided directly to the students who are participating.

March 2, 2027

WHO: 8th Grade Band (required) AND 8th Grade Chorus

WHAT: Sycamore Creek Elementary to inform rising 6th graders about their performing options in middle school.

WHERE: Sycamore Creek Elementary

SCHEDULE:

9:50	Gather in Band and Chorus rooms, respectively.
10:00	Load & Leave PHMS
10:15	Arrive at Brier Creek Elementary
10:30-11:10	Perform for 5 th Grade
11:20	Leave Brier Creek Elementary
11:30	Arrive at PHMS
1:35	Eat lunch in cafeteria with grade level

UNIFORM: Band: Dark red t-shirt, long blue jeans, comfortable shoes

MATERIALS: Instrument, Music, and a Portable Music Stand

FEE: Free

TRANSPORTATION: Activity Bus

NEEDS: Two parent volunteers are needed to transport band instruments on this trip. Any size vehicle will help! Volunteers must be registered through WCPSS <https://www.wcpss.net/volunteer>. You are able to register for multiple schools at one time. Please contact Mrs. Slade through Talking Points or email (cslade@wcpss.net) if you are interested in helping.

March 11, 2027

WHO: 7th & 8th Grade Band Students (required)

WHAT: Perform at the North Carolina East Central Band Association (NCEDBA) Music Performance Adjudication (MPA) festival. This is equivalent to the EOG for band. The purpose of MPA is “to provide students and teachers a means of receiving constructive comment by competent judges, to stimulate and recognize growth, and to provide students and teachers a means of hearing the work done by other school groups.”

WHERE: Felton Grove High School

SCHEDULE: TBD - Time slots will be assigned by the MPA Chair once the band is registered. This trip may bleed into outside of school hours.

UNIFORM: Formal Concert Uniform - Black Dress Pants, Black Dress Shirt, Black Dress Shoes, Black Socks

MATERIALS: Instrument, Music

FEE: \$3.00 in schoolcash online in February to cover the cost of transportation. Also, the band will most likely be stopping for fast food on the trip. Students will be able to request a bagged lunch prior to the trip.

TRANSPORTATION: Activity Bus

NEEDS: Six parent volunteers are needed to transport band instruments on this trip. Any size vehicle will help! Volunteers must be registered through WCPSS <https://www.wcpss.net/volunteer>. You are able to register for multiple schools at one time. Please contact Mrs. Slade through Talking Points or email (cslade@wcpss.net) if you are interested in helping. Parents will be able to carpool with each other.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Leading up to the performance, the students will have 1 opportunity to work with a sectional specialist during the school day as well as work with a clinician after school on **February 16, 3:00 P.M. - 5:45 P.M.** This rehearsal is important to put all 3 classes together before the festival and is required. Please make plans ahead of time for the success of our students.

REMINDER ABOUT PERFORMANCE PROBATION (In the Band Handbook)

The success of our performances is dependent on all band members meeting certain expectations. Therefore, a band member may be placed on performance probation as a result of excessive absences, excessive behavior problems, inadequate rehearsal participation, or lack of preparation on the concert music. A student placed on performance probation will not be allowed to perform until the probation has been lifted by the director. An alternate assignment will be given to replace any missed performance.

***REQUIRED PERFORMANCES**

Every student is important to our performance, so it is imperative that all students perform at required events. Also, this is the students' time to share everything that they have learned with their community. If members are missing, it impacts the entire band program. Required events are worth one major grade. Please see the Band Handbook for excused absence information.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns through Talking Points or email (cslade@wcpss.net).

Sincerely,

Cat Slade, Director of Bands