



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

September 28, 2025

Hello, MTMB Students and Parents!

Congratulations to all our students on an incredible week of accomplishments! Our band was named "Best Band" at the Ephrata Parade for the third year in a row and also earned a "Superior" rating (the highest possible for non-competitive groups) at the Eastern York Cavalcade of Bands Competition. Even more impressive than the awards was the way our band carried themselves. From powering through Tuesday's torrential rain to handling Saturday's unexpected bus breakdown with grace and patience, you proved once again that excellence is about both character and performance.

I am so proud to be a part of this band program with each of you. WAY TO GO!

As we enter **Week 7** of the season, it's time to celebrate MT's Homecoming! Please read this document and contact [Mr. Siegel](mailto:siegelsc@mtwp.net) with any questions you have.

CHEERING EACH OTHER ON!

- THANK YOU to Mr. Gromis (band director) and all the students and parents at Eastern York High School who welcomed us at the last minute to join their CBA Show. I have extended our sincere thanks and appreciation to them for a job well done hosting such a big event in such a small stadium.
- THANK YOU to all students who participated in the Cross Country Pep Band on Thursday. Your support of the team was greatly appreciated. I received numerous compliments, praises, and thanks from spectators and runners alike. Job well done - thanks to Celia and Daniel for organizing the event!
- THANK YOU to the organizers of the Ephrata Parade for allowing us to jump into the parade formation earlier than we were scheduled (saved us about 20 minutes!) Also, special thanks to the fire policeman who shielded the band from walking through "equine activity" at the top of the big hill. So glad no one accidentally stepped in that!
- THANK YOU to the Parent Chaperones on Saturday, especially those on Bus 3, who calmly handled the bus's engine breakdown. The kids were great, but

that has a lot to do with how you handled things in that moment. I am so thankful for all who volunteer to chaperone; we could not travel anywhere without you!

- JOB WELL DONE Sideline Percussion and E-Squad for our first road trip with the Spools. In a different style truck no less, you figured out how to make it work. Impressive!
- THANK YOU and JOB WELL DONE to all band students for the way you demonstrated character and leadership on Saturday. Dealing with the “chaos” of our staggered arrival at the show and the shorter than planned warmup time, as well as figuring out how to act at this type of event where the culture is really different than what we are used to, you came together to have a really strong performance and showed amazing support for all the other groups in attendance. Character counts and this band has a TON of it. I am so proud of you.

Absences

Attendance at rehearsals and performances is mandatory for all student performers. The only exceptions are sudden personal illness (verified by a parent or doctor), medical or family emergency (verified by a parent or doctor), or religious obligations. *If you need to miss a band rehearsal or performance at the last minute due to a personal illness or emergency, please contact [Mr. Siegel](#) via email. THANK YOU.*

Academic Eligibility

The school is monitoring academic eligibility for both athletic teams and the marching band. Please review your grades and make sure you are passing all of your classes. It is your responsibility to remain in good academic standing. Every Friday, administrators will run a grade report. Students who are failing two or more classes will be ineligible to participate in marching band activities for the entire following week - even if you get your grades back up in the middle of the week! If you are ineligible, Mr. Siegel will notify you in person and send a follow-up email to both you and your parents.

Rehearsals this Week

1. Tuesday 9/30 = 6:00-9:00 PM
 - a. The first half of rehearsal is split sectionals. Winds will spend some time working on Homecoming Music (see below) and the rest learning the final choreography for Part 3 of the show. Percussion and Guard have plenty of work to do refining parts of the show.

- b. The second half of rehearsal will be an ensemble visual rehearsal where we will clean dots in Segment D and E.
2. Thursday 10/2 = 6:00-9:00 PM
 - a. This rehearsal is all about beginnings, endings, transitions, and IMPACT points. Bring your best effort and let's really tackle these important aspects of the performance.
 - b. The final 20 minutes will be spent reviewing the homecoming halftime routine.

Homecoming Music - Wind Band

Woodwinds and Brass should make sure they have a copy of "Jupiter Hymn" in their flip books. If you need a copy, you can get it from Schoology, or ask a music librarian. Please practice this in advance of Tuesday's rehearsal so things can run more smoothly. Thanks!

Homecoming Pep Rally

On Friday, during Club Period, the band will participate in the annual Homecoming Pep Rally. Here is what you need to know

- **DISMISSED FROM 7TH PERIOD CLASS = 1:10 PM**
 - *Do not leave class early. You will have plenty of time to get ready.*
 - *Students who have 7th period study hall or seniors with early release may come to the band room early.*
 - *Bring all personal belongings to the band room. I will lock them inside during the pep rally and you can get them back after.*
- Bring hearing protection (ear plugs) because the Arena Gym is really loud!
- Wear your MTMB shirt!
- Be sure to have your flip book, etc. to play tunes like at a football game.
- At the end of the pep rally, return instruments to the band room.

Football Friday - HOMECOMING

This week's football game against Cedar Crest High School is our homecoming game. The schedule for the game is different than normal:

- **REPORT TIME = 5:00 PM**
- Warmups and Music Rehearsal = 5:10 PM
- Line Up and March To Stadium = 6:10 PM
- Cedar Crest Band Performs Pregame = 6:30 PM
 - MT in the stands cheering!
 - Move to the field after CC's performance for the pregame routine.
- Football Kickoff = 7:00 PM
- Homecoming Festivities at Halftime

- MTMB Performs Post-Game, Approx. 9:30 PM
- Approx. End Time = 10:00 PM

We will likely have many alumni returning for the game, with their instruments ready to jam out and relive their time in the band. We will have recent alums who many will know and there will be a few who graduated a long time ago who come back because they have such great memories of being in band. Either way, make everyone feel welcome! Share flip books, make space, and talk with these folks to see what they are up to and to share all the GREAT things our band has accomplished so far this year!

MTMB in our Community — Partnering with Kindness Grows Club...

MTHS has started a new club called “Kindness Grows”. The marching band, along with Football and Cheerleading, is going to support this new initiative by partnering with them for their first annual “Rise Against Hunger”.

The band will be collecting non-perishable food items that would be in a traditional Thanksgiving meal (stuffing, boxed mashed potatoes, Mac and cheese, corn, green beans, canned sweet potatoes, cranberry, canned chicken, boxed cake/dessert mixes) *Donations can be brought to the band room anytime between October 1 and October 18th.* The goal is to provide 100 meals for families in Lancaster County.

On October 18th, while the band is rehearsing for the Lampeter-Strasburg Showcase, volunteers will be packaging meals between 1-3pm. Any band parents interested in volunteering can use this [LINK](#).

THANK YOU for helping to fight hunger in Lancaster County and for supporting this new club!

Attention Seniors!

We look forward to recognizing and celebrating your accomplishments as a member of the Manheim Township Marching Band at the annual Football/Cheer/Marching Band Senior Recognition Night. This year, the ceremony will take place pre-game (approximately 6:30 pm) on Friday, October 10, 2025 before the home football game against Reading HS. Please [CLICK HERE](#) for more information AND to complete the required Google Form so that we can accurately share your accomplishments with the crowd that night!

Final Thoughts

Four weeks to go. You’ve accomplished so much in the time we’ve been together, but we’re not quite done yet. Let’s keep working this week on improving our performance while also taking the time to celebrate our successes and to honor our school’s homecoming! It’s going to be a GREAT week because of YOU.

~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*