

Randleman High School
Marching Tigers
Ms. Kyla Bartron, Director of Bands



“Practice like you’ve never won. Play like you’ve never lost.”
- Michael Jordan

Welcome to the Randleman High School Marching Band! I am looking forward to a season of wonderful music making.

In this handbook you will find some expectations and guidelines that will help us all have a successful season.

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Mission Statement:

The mission of the Marching Tigers is to shape students into not only strong musicians, but also responsible young adults with good character. The Bands will work together to inspire, encourage, and support every member of the program. We want being in the band to be an experience that is fulfilling and worthwhile for all.

Member Code of Conduct:

Students who are members of the Marching Tigers are representatives of an organization that is bigger than them. Every single band member should take accountability for the way that they are representing the program and their fellow band members. All members are held to a standard of excellence at all times. This code of conduct is in place to ensure that all members are given a positive learning environment. It is as follows:

- ↓ Members will treat the director, staff members, parent volunteers, and other members of the program with respect. Treat others the way you would like to be treated and make band a welcoming place for everyone.
- ↓ Members will honor the social contract. If the social contract is violated, students must hold themselves accountable to the consequences that follow.
- ↓ Members will always come to rehearsals prepared and with a positive mindset. They will also come ready to give their best effort and participate to the best of their abilities.
- ↓ Members will understand that cell phones are a distraction to the rehearsal process and will refrain from use during instructional time. Phones are not allowed on the marching band field or in the rehearsal space. Members will only be allowed to use cell phones during breaks.
- ↓ Members will take pride in their rehearsal spaces by keeping all spaces free of any food, drink, gum, candy, etc. The only drink that is allowed is water in a sealed container.
- ↓ Members will stay engaged with their surroundings and not participate in horseplay on the field or in any rehearsal spaces. This is extremely important to prevent any injuries or damage to equipment.
- ↓ Members will represent themselves and the program in a way that positively reflects upon the organization and all of its members during any and all performance opportunities, both on and off campus.
- ↓ Members will be responsible for equipment that is assigned to them. This includes instruments, uniforms, and any other school owned equipment. Members will also treat OTHERS equipment with respect by NOT USING, TOUCHING, OR MOVING equipment that does not belong to them.

These standards are in place along with the Randleman High School and Randolph County School System policies. Students who choose not to abide by the code of conduct will receive disciplinary action assigned by the Director of Bands and indicated by RHS policies. Severe infractions will be handled on a case by case basis and may result in loss of participation privileges and future removal from the program.

Required Materials:

- ♪ Instrument, music, drill, and/or flag and all necessary accessories (reeds, valve oil, sticks, mallets, cleaning supplies, etc.)
- ♪ Flip folder and lyre for your individual instrument. These can be found at music stores or online.
- ♪ A pencil at ALL REHEARSALS
- ♪ Drill lanyard and poker chips (provided by the RHS Band)
- ♪ A refillable water bottle (students MUST have their own water bottle at practice)
- ♪ Sunscreen
- ♪ Hat or sunglasses
- ♪ Sturdy pair of tennis shoes and socks for rehearsals (NO open toed shoes, NO heeled shoes)
- ♪ LONG, BLACK SOCKS for football games, competitions, and parades. These MUST cover the ankle!!!!
- ♪ Orange RHS Marching Tigers Shirt. These are purchased during band camp.
- ♪ Season Show Shirt. These are included in each student's Fair Share.

If you have any questions about any of these materials, please contact Ms. Bartron. Guard and percussion may have additional needs - they will be communicated to those students by the instructors.

Band Camp:

Band camp is the most important time of the marching band season. It gives us the foundation for learning and perfecting our marching skills and setting the tone for the rest of the season. Attendance at band camp is **mandatory**, as missing even one day can set a student (and the group) very far behind.

Important things about band camp:

- ♪ Show up PREPARED every day with the materials required above.
- ♪ Make sure that you bring PLENTY OF WATER to stay hydrated throughout the day. Students will be provided with additional water, but they must have their own water bottle to put it in. Sports drinks are a supplement to water, not a replacement. Soda is a big no-no at camp. Students are encouraged to only drink water during band camp and to have their water bottles with them at all times. Frequent water breaks will be given.
- ♪ Wear sunscreen, even if you don't think you need it. Everyone needs it.
- ♪ Wear loose fitting athletic clothing. Light colored t-shirts and athletic shorts are recommended. Tank tops are ok as long as they are in line with the school dress code. Long pants, and long sleeve shirts are not recommended as it gets VERY hot. Jeans are NOT ALLOWED.
- ♪ Wear tennis shoes and socks. You may bring sandals to change into during indoor rehearsal time, but if we are MARCHING, you MUST wear tennis shoes.

- ♪ Please eat a solid meal before coming to camp. Don't drink a lot of milk with your breakfast.
- ♪ Students are responsible for their own lunch. They are NOT allowed to leave campus for lunch. Avoid bringing greasy food, soda, or sugary snacks/drinks. You may want to pack some snacks during the day to eat on breaks.

Expect to work hard and give your best effort throughout all of band camp, but also expect to HAVE FUN! While we're working on starting our show, we are also trying to grow as a family!

Attendance Policy:

Students have made the commitment to participate in this program. Every single student is expected to attend rehearsals and performances to honor their commitment to their team. Your attendance affects everyone in the band. There's no "riding the bench" and no "second string" players. Everyone else is counting on you to show up. Rehearsals, football games, competitions, and parades are MANDATORY.

When students sign their commitment contract, they are making a full season commitment to the band program. Students will have music, drill, and equipment purchased on their behalf. The band program is making an investment in your student. Students are expected to honor their commitment for the **full season**. If a student quits after the season begins, they are leaving the rest of the band to re-write, re-learn, and replace the hole that student has left behind. This is not fair to the rest of the band students who are honoring their commitment. Students must understand that they are part of a team now and there are other people counting on them. Every student is incredibly important and valuable to this organization and we count on them to recognize and honor this commitment to the band.

Absences from rehearsals or performances are only excused for the following reasons:

- ♪ Medical appointments (with a doctor's note)
- ♪ Illness (with a parent/guardian note)
- ♪ Death in the family
- ♪ By the discretion of the Director of Bands

Any other reason for an absence from rehearsals or performances will be unexcused. An accumulation of more than **three unexcused absences** will result in removal from the program. All absences MUST be communicated via email or Remind 101 to the Director of Bands **prior to the absence**. It is also important that students arrive at rehearsals on time and stay for the entire duration. Missing more than half of a rehearsal (late arrival/early departure) will result in an absence.

If students miss the last rehearsal before a performance, that student is not able to march the performance by discretion of the Director of Bands. If students miss a football game the night before a competition, you will not be able to perform at the competition the following day. If you are ineligible to perform for any reason, you are still expected to attend and assist with moving equipment and support your team. Failure to attend will result in an unexcused absence and a zero for the performance grade.

STUDENTS WHO HAVE JOBS: It is YOUR responsibility to balance your commitments to the band and your employer. The schedule for the season is provided with plenty of time for you to provide your manager with the schedule. If you must leave early, arrive late, or miss rehearsal for your job, it is your responsibility to notify the Director of Bands ahead of time. Missing practice or a performance due to your job will be an unexcused absence. Unexcused absences, early departure, and late arrivals to any and all rehearsals and performances will result in a deduction from your grade for that week's rehearsal participation or the performance grade.

Anytime you miss rehearsal or part of a rehearsal, for any reason, it is YOUR responsibility to catch up on what you missed. Time will not be dedicated to re-teaching material due to absences. If you are not caught up on drill or music by the time of the next performance, you will not be eligible to perform. This is not a punishment, it is a safety issue.

Grading Policy:

The fall band class is dedicated to the marching band. All high school members of the marching band are required to be enrolled in fall band class. This is designed to hold members of the band accountable for all of their participation in rehearsals and performances. Students will be graded and evaluated based on their participation.

The grading policy goes as follows:

- ♪ Major Assessments, 60%:
 - ♪ Performances, Check-Ins
- ♪ Minor Assessments, 40%:
 - ♪ Participation, Interim Reports

Performance grades are evaluated based on students showing up on time and prepared for competitions, football games, parades, and any other performance events (such as exhibition). If a student shows up to a performance after Call Time, that student's grade will be deducted by one point every minute the student is late. If a student arrives unprepared (missing materials or not properly dressed), that student's grade will be deducted by 10 points.

If a student misses a performance, they must notify the Director of Bands **prior** to the performance, if possible. Absences to performances require a note to be excused, and are subject to discretion of the Director of Bands. If the absence is unexcused, the student will receive a zero for the performance grade. If the absence is excused, the student will be required to complete an assignment for a grade replacement. Emergent situations will be handled on a case by case basis.

Check-Ins will be graded on a rubric that is appropriate to the material of the Check-In (drill, music, choreography, etc.) These rubrics will be in Canvas for students to see how they were graded and what was missed. Students can also view rubrics for Check-Ins prior to performing to see what they are being evaluated on.

Participation grades are evaluated based on students showing up on time and prepared for rehearsals. If a student shows up late or leaves early to a rehearsal (unexcused), that student's grade will be deducted by one point every minute the student is late. If a student arrives unprepared (missing materials or not properly dressed), that student's grade will be deducted by 5 points.

Interim Reports will be sent out halfway through each quarter to monitor student progress. If students bring back their interim reports signed, they will receive credit. If they do not, they will receive a zero.

Rehearsal Expectations:

- ♪ Be on time to rehearsal! What does this mean? Early is on time, on time is late. You need to have all your preparations taken care of BEFORE the rehearsal start time. Rehearsal start time is not when you need to be there. It is when the GROUP will START rehearsing.
- ♪ If you have any instrument needs that the Director of Bands needs to address, do so BEFORE rehearsal starts, if possible. Some quick fixes can be done on the field, but most cannot.
- ♪ Unless you have an injury and doctor's note that prevents you from doing so, you are expected to participate in all parts of rehearsal.
- ♪ Listen carefully to feedback given from the Director of Bands and instructional staff. If you are talking, playing your instrument, tossing your flag, or in la-la land, you may miss important information.
- ♪ Please raise your hand if you need clarification or have a question. A director or staff member will help you. I understand we all want to be helpful, but talking between members on the field is distracting to everyone.
- ♪ In order to keep questions streamlined, try to go through the chain of command whenever possible. (Reads: ask Ms. Bartron LAST!)

- ↓ Student health and safety is the number one priority. It is important that you take care of yourself. Before coming to rehearsal, make sure you drink plenty of water and have eaten a decent meal.
- ↓ HAVE A WATER BOTTLE, DRINK WATER during rehearsal. IF YOU START TO FEEL DIZZY/NAUSEOUS, ALERT A CAPTAIN, STAFF MEMBER, OR THE DIRECTOR ASAP.

Check-Ins

It is extremely important that EVERY SINGLE performer knows their music, drill, and choreography in order for the band to be successful. Members will be given deadlines for memorization of show music and choreography to hold everyone accountable. Students will perform their Check-In during class or at rehearsal. Students who do not pass their Check-Ins will not be allowed to perform during games and competitions and will help with props and equipment instead until passing the Check-In.

Football Game Expectations:

Football games are meant to be fun! However, this is still a performance even when we're playing in the stands. These are one of the biggest times where we are in the eye of the community, and it is important that we put forth our best effort to represent the band program as positively as possible. Cheer, support the football team, support the cheerleaders, but please make sure you are displaying good sportsmanship and following the Code of Conduct. You should always be paying attention to the Drum Majors and Director of Bands, as they will tell you when to play and what you are playing. A typical Friday night home game will go as follows:

- ↓ Report to the band room at Call Time (typically 6pm, but could vary depending on certain events at the game, travel, etc.)
- ↓ Warm Up
- ↓ Dress into uniforms
- ↓ March down to the field for pregame
- ↓ Perform National Anthem
- ↓ Leave the stands during 2nd quarter to warm up for halftime
- ↓ PERFORM AT HALFTIME. BE AWESOME.
- ↓ 3rd quarter Break. This break is NOT meant for a full meal. You should plan to eat before call time. You may grab a snack, but depending on the situation at concessions, that may not happen for you.
- ↓ Report back to the stands by FIVE MINUTES left in the 3rd quarter. Football time is NOT real time. So keep an eye on that clock! If any member is late, the whole group comes back early next game.
- ↓ Play 4th quarter
- ↓ March back to the band room
- ↓ Dress out of uniforms
- ↓ Pack up, put away equipment, clean the band room. This is a TEAM EFFORT. Students will not be dismissed until everything is tidy and put away.

Competition Expectations:

Competition days are exciting, but they can prove stressful and overwhelming. It is important that procedures are followed to keep everything running as smoothly as possible.

Depending on the individual competitions, Call Time and schedules may vary. Competition itineraries are typically sent out the Monday before the competition at the latest. Competitions can be in mid September, through the beginning of November. They are all on Saturdays. Try to have these Saturday reserved ahead of time, as these are full day ordeals.

Competition Days will generally go as follows:

Before departing RHS:

- ↓ Arrive to the band room no later than the designated Call Time. Make sure you arrive with all materials needed for the day. Students will always need money for concessions, hair ties/bobby pins, guard makeup, clothes to change into after performing, and anything to keep warm.
- ↓ Morning rehearsal, if we are able
- ↓ Load all equipment including props, percussion, and large instruments. Smaller instruments (flutes and clarinets) will be kept on the bus.
- ↓ Load Bus
- ↓ Depart by the specified time on the competition itinerary. STUDENTS WHO ARE NOT ON THE BUS AT "LOAD BUS" TIME WILL BE LEFT BEHIND.

Once at competition site:

There will be student and parent volunteers from the hosting school to guide us to all areas. Please be respectful of the volunteers and stay in our band's designated area at all times.

- ↓ Unload Bus/Retrieve Uniforms/Dress
- ↓ Retrieve and Assemble Instruments
- ↓ Warm Up
- ↓ PERFORM AND BE AWESOME
- ↓ Return to the busses to reload instruments/retrieve uniforms
- ↓ Change out of Uniforms
- ↓ Travel from equipment trailer to the stands AS A GROUP
- ↓ Sit in the stands and watch the other bands perform AS A GROUP.

While we are in the stands:

- ↓ We will sit as close together as a group as possible. We are a team, and we will act as a team while watching and supporting other bands.
- ↓ Applaud every group, whether you liked the show or not. These bands have worked just as hard as we have and deserve recognition and support.
- ↓ Keep your comments about other bands and other shows positive. Critique of other shows can be discussed in private. You never know who may be sitting next to you.

- ↓ If you leave the stands, go in groups of 3 or more or with an adult. You will get stuck with Ms. Bartron if you are found traveling around by yourself. Not fun for anyone.
- ↓ At no point will anyone be allowed to retrieve anything from the equipment trailer or the bus. Once we leave the bus after we perform, you are not going back until it's time to leave. Bring everything you care about with you.
- ↓ During awards ceremonies, show good sportsmanship and cheer for all groups (but not as hard as you cheer for US!)
- ↓ After awards, we will clear the stands and load the bus to return to RHS. Do not leave any trash or personal belongings in the stands. Do not lollygag after awards. Go straight to the bus. Do not pass GO. Do not collect \$200.

Upon return to RHS:

- ↓ Unload trailer/put away all equipment. Clean and tidy the band room. This is a team effort and will go quickly if everyone helps.
- ↓ No one leaves until the band room is clean, all equipment is away, and the Director of Bands has dismissed everyone.

Competitions are full day commitments. All students are expected to arrive at school, load equipment, travel together, stay for the whole competition, and help unload. This is a TEAM sport, and this is our equivalent of a game. It is vital to our success that we start and finish the game as a TEAM. Unless an arrangement has been discussed with the Director of Bands ahead of time or an emergency arises, students will not be able to arrive late or check out early.

RCSS Exhibition:

Each year, the Marching Tigers host the Randolph County School System Marching Band Exhibition. This is a very large community event that is important to all of the bands in the county. All band programs (MS and HS) perform the National Anthem together, and high school programs perform their halftime field show.

This event is a great fundraiser for the band program, and is the biggest event that takes place during the marching season. All students are expected to attend and work this event. **PARENTS/GUARDIANS: if you are going to volunteer to work any event during the season, this is the one!** It is a large undertaking and requires a lot of hands.

Jobs for this event include, but are not limited to the following:

- ↓ Concession Stands
- ↓ Bandgrams/Bake Sale
- ↓ Equipment Transportation
- ↓ Stand Monitoring
- ↓ Admissions

This event is always a ton of fun for everyone involved, and is a great way to build the band community in our county!

Travel and Transportation

Permission forms and paperwork for any and all travel must be turned in PRIOR to the day of travel. In most cases, we will use an activity bus to travel to and from performances.

- ↓ Students must ride their assigned bus to and from all performances.
- ↓ Attendance will be taken before any departures
- ↓ No inappropriate behavior on the bus, including loud profanity or inappropriate topics of conversation.
- ↓ Respect the bus driver by keeping the noise level to a minimum. There is no reason to be hooting and hollering on the bus like a hoodlum.
- ↓ Portable speakers are acceptable as long as the volume is kept to a reasonable level and the music is not offensive to other students or parents who may be riding the bus. If this becomes an issue, Ms. Bartron will select the music, and you will not like it.
- ↓ Students are responsible for leaving the bus clean. We want to uphold the high standards of our organization by cleaning up after ourselves.

Uniform Standards:

The marching band program will provide the full uniform that students wear at games, competitions, and parades. This includes: bibs, jackets, hats, plumes, gloves, gauntlets, and shoes. Gloves and shoes are purchased through the program by each student during band camp and can be reused for multiple seasons. Students are expected to provide their own LONG, BLACK SOCKS that go over the ankle. Wearing this uniform should be considered a high honor, and every student should treat their uniform with the utmost respect. The uniform code is as follows:

- ↓ It is INCREDIBLY IMPORTANT that you uphold the Code of Conduct when wearing the uniform. You are a walking advertisement for our school and program. Take pride in that representation and refrain from any behavior that might embarrass or diminish the value of what we do.
- ↓ The uniform is not to be taken home. It will be returned to the booster closet after every performance.
- ↓ Report all stains or rips ASAP.
- ↓ Eating in full uniform is not permitted. We have white on our jackets and we cannot take the risk of staining the uniform. You must remove the jacket. Avoid extremely messy foods.
- ↓ The jacket must be folded properly when it is not being worn. This will be demonstrated to you.
- ↓ Sunglasses or head accessories that are not excessively distracting may be worn in the stands at games. They are not permitted during field shows at games or competitions.
- ↓ Small ear/facial jewelry that is not distracting is allowed. Avoid wearing earrings that dangle. All bracelets and necklaces must be removed or hidden from the public eye.

- ↓ Refrain from excessive makeup that may distract from the uniformity of the group or rub off on the uniform. You are going to be sweating during performances, and it's not gonna look cute after that anyway. Guard makeup or show makeup is the only exception.
- ↓ LONG, BLACK SOCKS should always be worn in full uniform for winds and percussion.
- ↓ Shoes should be kept as clean as possible. It is ok to reuse shoes from previous seasons, but shoes that no longer fit or are in disrepair are highly discouraged.

If the uniform is damaged due to negligence on behalf of the student, it will be their responsibility to cover the cost of repair or replacement. Failure to adhere to the uniform standards will result in deductions from performance grades or removal from performances.

For performances and events where students need to arrive ready to dress into uniforms, students will need to arrive wearing the following:

- ↓ Football Games: Orange Marching Tigers Shirt OR Competitions: Season Show Shirt
- ↓ Athletic bottoms that will not be bulky under the bibs
- ↓ LONG, BLACK SOCKS
- ↓ Drill Masters
- ↓ Hair worn in a way that be concealed under the hat (please have hair ready BEFORE DRESSING)

Fair Share/Other Expenses:

The members of the RHS Marching Tigers are requested to contribute to "Fair Share" each marching band season. The cost of "Fair Share" is \$150. This money covers the cost of music, drill, uniform cleaning, transportation, competition entry fees, and any other expenses that we incur throughout the season. The Band Booster organization works very hard to keep this cost as low as possible. We strive to be incredibly understanding of different financial situations, and we are flexible with our payment plans. Money will NEVER be a reason to keep your student from participating. We will find a way!

Students will be expected to purchase their own personal equipment and apparel for marching band. Most items can be purchased once and reused from year to year, depending on how much your student grows. This includes: Orange Marching Tigers shirts, DrillMaster marching shoes, gloves, and instrument accessories.

We also aim to provide meals and snacks for our students as often as possible, especially on our longer days. However, students will need to bring concession stand money for competitions and football games. Please keep these expenses in mind throughout the season.

Band Boosters

The Randleman High School Bands could absolutely not do what we do without the support of parents, guardians, family members, and friends of the band students. I highly encourage you to get involved in the program! The best way to do so is through the Randleman High School Band Boosters. The Band Boosters help our program by fundraising, volunteering as chaperones, feeding the kids, running concession stands and raffles on Friday nights, helping load/unload/move equipment during performances, and donating their time and resources to our talented students.

The Band Boosters have regular meetings on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm in the RHS Band Room. All parents, guardians, and family members of our band members are encouraged to attend. We use these meetings to keep everyone informed on events that are coming up. We discuss volunteer needs, have volunteer sign ups, and it's also a great opportunity to ask any questions you may have about upcoming events. Our current Band Booster officers are posted on our website, and you can find their contact information there as well. If you have any questions about the Band Booster organization, your student's band fees, equipment orders, fundraisers, or volunteer opportunities, please feel free to contact anyone on our Band Booster officer board.

Stay Informed

Remind 101 is our main point of contact to send out reminders and emergent changes. It's free to use, and you can sign up via text message or by downloading the app! Instructions on how to sign up are available on the band website and social media pages.

Additionally, information will be regularly updated on the band's social media. This includes our Facebook page, Instagram, Twitter, and website. Please make sure you find us on social media and follow for regular updates!

Website: randlemanbands.com

Facebook Page: Randleman High School Band

Instagram: @randlemantigerbands

Contact Ms. Bartron:

Email: kbartron@randolph.k12.nc.us

Phone: 336-498-2682 ext. 45126

**PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU SUBMIT ALL OF THE REQUIRED
PAPERWORK (CONTRACT AND MEDICAL FORM) TO MS.
BARTRON BY THE COMMITMENT DEADLINE!**