

MARCHING BAND ATTENDANCE POLICY

In order to best support fellow bandmates, the football team, school and community, the expectation of every member of the Saline Marching Band is to attend and be on time to every scheduled rehearsal and performance. The band does not have “subs”, or a second string so every member is a critical part of the band’s rehearsal and performance.

The calendar for the band is published as part of a registration packet as well as published on the marching band website (<https://sites.google.com/a/salineschools.org/bands/Home/marching-band>) in May, and rarely changes throughout the year unless rehearsals are canceled.

Section leaders take attendance when the drum major whistle blows and the band is called to attention at the beginning of each rehearsal. Any member not at attention in attendance block at that moment is marked absent on the attendance board. Students arriving late should change the marked “A” next to their name to a “T” to indicate tardy. Students more than 20 minutes late are considered absent for that rehearsal.

Consequences:

Absence

- 1 unexcused absence – Band member will stand on the sideline in uniform with instrument and not march during pregame.
- 2 unexcused absences – Band member will stand on the sideline in uniform with instrument and not march both pregame and halftime
- More than 2 excused absences – evaluation of a student’s ability to march the show safely, for both them and those around them. Band staff will talk to any student in that position.

Tally of absent students will reset after each performance.

Tardiness

- 1 unexcused tardy – Band member will assist in various clean up duties as directed by one of the band directors after the game
- 2 unexcused tardies – Equal to an unexcused absence

Tally of tardy students will reset after each performance.

In order to have an absence or tardy excused, the student’s **parent** must send an email to Assistant Director Rebekah Allmand at allmandr@salineschools.org within 24 hours of the absence or tardy. We recognize that there are conflicts between sporting practices and games and marching band practices and games, as well as other activities and marching band. Generally, those can be worked out by following the guideline of attendance at a game/performance outweighs a practice. In the event that there is a conflict, please talk to Mrs. Allmand as far in advance of the conflict as possible to discuss a resolution. Because the schedule is published so far in advance work is not considered an excused absence. In general, no more than one morning rehearsal per week may be missed for a conflict, nor is missing Monday evening rehearsal acceptable.

Marching band is a cumulative activity, with the entire show often not learned until September. The process starts with Pre-camp in July. Any member new to the marching band must attend band camp and must speak with the director if missing any part of pre-camp. All returning members must speak with a director if missing any pre-camp or camp.

Marching band is a Varsity Letter activity at Saline High School, equal to all other varsity sports. It is a spatial activity, so a student missing in their spot affects not only that student, but all students in the surrounding area. It is very difficult to maintain consistent spacing within the band formations if students are routinely absent.