

Bainbridge High School Marching Band

2025 Information Packet



THANK YOU for your interest in the award winning Spartan Marching Band!

This packet is meant to provide basic information about the Marching Band program here at Bainbridge High School. Each fall, Bainbridge's marching band competes in three regional marching band competitions, performs at each of our home football games, organizes a flash mob for the downtown Winslow Halloween celebration, and performs a stand still performance at our fall band concert. Competitively, we have won many medals, but we are really about building friendships and making a show together that we are proud of. It's a great experience!

The rest of this packet describes the dates, times, and costs associated with Marching Band at BHS. To register, you will need to visit our online registration page:

www.bainbridgebands.org
Google Classroom Code: [kncvzctr](#)

I have the registration process split up into 3 easy steps:

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| 1. Read this packet | (you're already off to a good start) |
| 2. Join the new Google Classroom | (all new information and materials will be posted there) |
| 3. Fill out an online registration form | (it'll just take a few minutes) |

If you have questions about the registration process, please get a hold of me at cthomas@bisd303.org. I will be happy to help you out.

I know you and your students have a LOT of choices concerning how to best invest your time; it's my goal to make our bands as meaningful, rewarding, and accessible as possible. Please don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions.

Thank you!

Chris Thomas
Director of Bands
Bainbridge High School
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Dates and Times for Marching Band:

Marching Band at BHS is basically a fall sport. We have a 2+ week intensive called “band camp” in the second half of August, then we have rehearsal 2-3 days a week after school begins. We perform at 4 home football games, 3 away competitions, the Winslow Halloween Trick or Treat, and at our Fall Band Concert. It’s all very fun & inclusive!

Here are the important dates:		A typical day at band camp:	
1. Aug 13th	Band leadership day!	9am	Attendance & activity
2. Aug 14-15	Welcome & training days	10am	Stretching & marching basics
3. Aug 18-22	First week of band camp!	11am	Learn drill for the show
4. Aug 25-29	Second week of band camp!	12pm	Snack break
5. Aug 29th	Family dinner, meeting, and preview performance!	2pm	Lunch break
6. Sept 12th	1st Football Game (vs Tumwater)	3pm	Warm-up & show music
7. Oct 3rd	2nd Football Game (vs North Mason)	5pm	Pep band
8. Oct 10th	3rd Football Game (vs Port Angeles)	6pm	Dinner break
9. Oct 24th	4th Football Game (vs. Sequim)	7pm	Full show practice
		9pm	Band debrief & clean-up
10. Sept 27th	Competition in Gig Harbor	9:15	Evening dismissal
11. Oct 11th	Competition in Sumner		
12. Oct 25th	Competition in Everett		
13. Oct 31st	Winslow Halloween		
14. TBD	Awards Night		

What is Band Camp and what should I bring to it?

Description: Band camp is a two week intensive where the band gets to know each other and most of the fall marching band show. In all, it’s about 2/3rds of our rehearsal time together. It’s fun. It’s hard. It’s rewarding. It’s important!

It is possible for a few members to be excused from portions of band camp for other activities or family conflicts, but these need to be minimal. Absences need to be communicated to the staff via Google Classroom early in the summer.

>>> Please avoid scheduling family trips during band camp. <<<

What to Bring: Instrument, athletic shoes, sunscreen, water bottle, hat, sunglasses, athletic shorts, and food or money to purchase food in town during camp. Please refrain from wearing jeans or sandals to marching band rehearsals.

End of Band Camp Show & Tell Performance: At the end of band camp, we will put on a show and tell for our band friends and family, have a short, but very informative parent meeting, and celebrate the start of the season with a BBQ.

Where do we perform and what’s the vibe?

As you can see in the list above, we perform at a variety of events as a marching band. The marching band competitions resemble regular band concerts in some ways. The audience is there to see the bands! One after another, bands from all over the Pacific Northwest come to compete against each other. It’s pretty fun to see what other schools are able to do. Our assemblies, flashmob in Winslow, and home football games all for community entertainment. The crowds are loud, and it’s our job to capture their attention!

My goal, as the band director, is to support a community of young people who strive to accomplish great things together. Marching Band is always one of the groups I have the most fun teaching, because everyone that participates in Marching Band is committed to making the group great!

- I. All **non-illness or emergency absences or tardies** should be submitted to the attendance form on Google Classroom. Single absences should be submitted at least a full week in advance, and should be quite rare (4 during the whole season for an individual student is too many).
- II. **Illness or emergency absences** should be promptly reported on that same form in Classroom.
- III. **Recurring or special permission conflicts** need to be submitted and approved at least a month ahead of time.
- IV. *Unexcused absences slow the band down, make it hard to plan rehearsals, and will result in extra chores being assigned. If a member accrues too many unexcused absences, they risk losing credit towards a PE waiver or being held out of performances.*

What constitutes an excused absence when your activities have conflicting schedules.

Events higher on this list take higher precedence when communicated according to the policy above. An excused activity doesn't necessarily mean a student should miss the entire day. It's expected that everyone in the program is 'doing their best.' If we have a contest, for example, but you have an important excused conflict in the morning, it would be expected that there would be a good faith effort to make it to the band event the second half of the day.

1) Nationals for sports	→	(Higher are Excused)
2) Band contests for upper bands (WE/JB1/PE)	→	
3) Sports regional & state playoffs	→	
4) Marching Band Competitions	→	
5) Band contests for all lower bands (SB/CB/JB2)	→	
6) Band concerts (all bands)	→	
7) Regular season games	→	
8) Special band practices (dress rehearsals, etc)	→	
9) Regular sport practices & Marching Band (compromise)	→	
10) Work, off campus groups, or non-emergency family activities.	→	(Lower are Unexcused)

PE Waiver!

If a member successfully completes two seasons of Marching Band, they earn a PE waiver from BHS. A second PE waiver can be earned by successfully completing four seasons of Marching Band. These Marching Band PE waivers CAN be combined with Team Sports PE waivers (one season of team sports = one PE waiver). By combining the two types of waivers, students CAN waive ALL THREE semesters of required PE. Health class cannot be waived.

Parent Volunteers & Our Booster Association

We have amazing students. What can give them an exceptional experience is an involved community of band parents. Please consider volunteering at a few band events this year. Becoming a cleared volunteer with BISD is easy. Just follow the link on the [BISD page](#). (Just Google "[BISD303 Volunteer](#)")

Our parent Booster Association (a registered 501(c)(3)) has over 25 years of history in supporting the BHS Band Program. Each year, the association raises the vast majority of our total operating budget. More on our Booster Association can be found on the band website, www.bainbridgebands.org.

Provided by BHS / ASB:

- Mr Thomas' time and energy (BISD-BIEA)
- Show Music (ASB)
- Show Drill (ASB)

Provided by member participation fees to BHS in the fall:

- BHS band uniform (Must be returned in good condition at the end of the year)
- Transportation to competitions (BHS Buses)
- Supplemental instruction (Marching, percussion, and guard instructors)

Provided by BHS Band Boosters:

(Please consider donating to the Band Booster Association!)

- Member t-shirt!
- Props and other show surprises!
- Food at competitions (Usually lunch & dinner, but it varies each year)
- UHual to transport equipment
- And much more! Our band boosters are essential! Please volunteer!

Additional - (please DO NOT include payments for these items at this time, we'll handle orders during band camp):

- ~\$40 Black marching shoes
- ~\$2/*pair* White marching gloves Expect to go through a couple pairs each year
- ~\$50 BHS band sweatshirt
- ~\$45 BHS ASB Card All band members need to purchase an ASB card, each year.

Booster Donation

- \$350/student The band boosters spend about \$350 per student each year on uniforms, equipment, food, and travel expenses. Please contribute to our annual marching band donation drive. This dramatically reduces the amount of time and energy parents spend fundraising or responding to fundraising emails each year.

Payment Instructions

- BHS Participation Fee Pay this to BHS in the fall.
- Booster Items Order and pay for the booster items during band camp.
- Booster Donation www.bainbridgebands.org > cashier (pay this summer).

Scholarships

- Both the Boosters and BHS have scholarship programs for families with financial need. Money shouldn't keep a single student from fully participating in band at BHS. Please write to us.