



# MARQUETTE MUSTANG MARCHING BAND

## (Tips to surviving marching season)

**Summer:** Practice once or twice a week (percussion and guard have their own schedule). OK to miss if you are out of town, try to make as many as possible.

- Picnic is a great icebreaker. It is held in July.
- Band Camp is **mandatory**. It is held in mid-July.
- Try to get doctor visits/family time, etc. in during the summer as it is really hard to get anything done during marching season.

**Practice:** Once school starts, practice will be after school until 5:30. (Practice ends at 5:30, but students then need to help bring the equipment in from the practice field, so often it is later.)

**Uniforms:** Students will receive two T-shirts (one MARQUETTE BAND and one show shirt). Non-guard members will also receive a dry-fit under shirt/shorts for uniform purposes.

- Marquette Band shirt can be worn to school on spirit days and may be worn at some football games.
- “Show” shirt will represent the theme of that year’s show and have the competition schedule on the back. These are worn during competitions after performance.
- Student must wear the dry-fit under uniforms. Most students will wear the dry fit to competition under their jeans and show shirt. This makes it easy to change into/out of uniforms on a bus.

**Football Games:** Students need to be in uniform (with socks, shoes, and instrument) by 5:30pm for warm-ups. Guard and Percussion will have their own call time and schedule.

- Troop in before game, sit together at the game and play the National Anthem and pep tunes.
- Perform part of their show at half time.
- Parents are encouraged to sit behind the band in band section of the stands. Really important to support the band. **ALL parents are required to help at one game** to move pit equipment and props to and from the football field.

**Competitions:** Held on Saturdays. These are an all day and often late night events.

- The band will travel to area schools, perform the show, and compete for trophies. There is usually a prelim and a final performance.
- Parents are strongly encouraged to attend to support the band. **ALL parents are required to help at one competition** to move pit equipment and props to and from the football field.
- Often the exact itinerary isn’t known until a few days before the competition. So leave the day open if possible. The competition websites can give you general information, directions, format, etc. The website, [www.midwestmarching.com](http://www.midwestmarching.com), provides lots of information and can usually link you to the website for a specific competition.
- Send your student with \$20 for food at the competition

**Travel:** Some years the band will take an overnight trip to participate in an out of town competition. This is usually in October.

The band also takes a Summer Trip once every 4 years – usually to Florida. The next trip is planned for summer 2020.

**Parental Involvement:** We need it!! Every parent needs to volunteer in some way.

- Band Booster meetings are held monthly and are a great way of finding out what is going on.
- You are a vital part of the show...the audience!!
- We need all families to assist us with props/equipment at **one football game and one competition day**. (You can do more than one – so don't limit yourselves – it is fun!)

**Fundraising:** Usually 1 per quarter. Participation is optional.

*2 big band fundraisers are Craft Fair and Trivia Night. We need everyone's help for these.*

**Tips for success in band: STUDENTS**

- Be on time and be prepared.
- Practice.
- Stay hydrated.
- Don't freak out. It will be hard at first, but you will get it.

**Tips for success in band: PARENTS**

- Don't freak out. It will be hard at first but you will get it.
- Get into a carpool (Upperclassmen will often give rides to stranded Freshman)
- Get involved (you only have a few years left!!). This is the best way to know what's going on and get to know the kids in the band.
- Black box in band room for checks and order forms.
- Website is [www.marquette-bands.com](http://www.marquette-bands.com)
- Communication: Stan Minor: [Minorstan@rsdmo.org](mailto:Minorstan@rsdmo.org)  
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