

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

A Year in the Life of a Mt. Lebanon Marching Band Student

FYI is a comprehensive listing of band topics arranged chronologically, beginning with the first responsibility required of a band student during the marching band school year – the physical. Hopefully, this list will provide an overview of the year's schedule of events, answer many questions, and offer some reasons why we are proud to be a part of the Mt. Lebanon Marching Blue Devils.

If you have further questions, please consult www.leboband.com – your most important source for Mt. Lebanon band information.

Please note: All activities, events, times and places are only approximations and subject to change year to year. Please check the website prior to activities and events to verify times and places.

JUNE and JULY

PHYSICAL

Physical examination forms are mailed to each band student around mid-May. All marching band students are required to have a physical dated after June 1. Students will not be able to march without a physical exam on file. These forms are collected by Ms. Marino on the first day of band camp.

BAND APPAREL ORDERING NIGHT is usually one night during the first week of June. Please see lists below for apparel that is to be purchased.

Required purchases:

Musicians: yellow band T-shirt (Suggestion: purchase 2), shoes and gloves

Rockettes: shoes, gloves, white bodysuit, tights, briefs and warm-up suit

Silks: shoes, gloves, white bodysuit and warm-up suit

This is also the evening on which students are measured for their band uniforms, so plan to attend. Band uniforms do not need to be purchased. Every year each band student must submit a new uniform measurement form. Students do not automatically receive the uniform from the previous year.

Uniform Information

1. Each Band Member is responsible for the uniform that is issued to you. Each piece has a number and that number is assigned to you. You must return the uniform that is assigned to you at the end of the year. You are responsible for any damage to the uniform.
2. If you need to alter the uniform, please be aware that you **may not cut** or trim the uniform in any way. If the pants are too long, please turn up the hem. If you march in pants that are too long, you will put holes in the hems and you will be charged for the damage at the end of the year. You may turn up the hem, but, **do not cut the hem**. If the jacket sleeves are too long, you may turn them under, **do not open the seams**. Do not take in or let out the seam on any part of the uniform.
3. Do not spot clean your uniform. Do not iron your uniform. If your uniform needs to be cleaned, take the jacket and the pants of the uniform to the cleaners at the same time. The uniforms must be professionally dry-cleaned. Do not dry-clean it at home. We have used Ruby's, Beverly and Fi-Del Cleaners.

Rockettes and Silks: DO NOT have your vests dry-cleaned.

4. Uniforms are to be hung up on hangars. They wrinkle very easily and if they are lying on the floor in your room or in the bottom of your locker, they will look terrible and that reflects on the entire organization.
5. If you keep your uniform in your band locker, the locker **MUST** have a lock on it. Any uniform found in an unlocked locker will be removed.
6. If your uniform needs to be repaired (buttons replaced, zippers fixed etc.), please see **Mrs. Kordella** at least 1/2 hour before the performance.

Any questions – Lindsey Kordella (412) 341-4090

MINI-BAND CAMP is a one-day, 3 hour long introduction to the how, what, when, where and why of being in a marching band. It occurs on one day in June after the last day of school and one day mid-to-end July at the high school. If a student is in town, attendance is mandatory. If a student is out of town, please inform Ms. Marino by e-mail.

Suggestions for ALL CAMPS: -use suntan lotion
-wear socks and tennis shoes
-bring a water bottle

AUGUST

PRE-CAMP is a two-day, 3 hour session per day held the week before band camp. Attendance is required of all freshmen, new members and section leaders.

PICTURE DAY occurs during Pre-Camp. Individual band pictures and group photos are taken. Different packages are available for purchase. One band photo button is given to band parents usually at the first Band Builders General Membership Meeting, compliments of the Band Builders.

BAND CAMP is a mandatory two-week program for marching band students, held in the Mt. Lebanon School district. It is during this time that drills are learned, music is rehearsed, routines are prepared for the upcoming year.

BAND BUILDERS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS are opportunities for parents of band students to become more involved and informed. Meetings are generally about 4 times during the school year: August, November, January, and May at 7:30pm in the 4th floor cafeteria.

PARENTS' NIGHT is an invitation to watch the band perform on the field before the season begins. It is usually the last hour of an evening field rehearsal during the second week of Band Camp or the week of the first football game.

KENNYWOOD DAY

This is the first parade in which the Marching Blue Devils participates.

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

BAND FESTIVAL is a collaborative effort of band directors, teachers, students, and parents showcasing the talents of our own Marching Blue Devils and other area high school marching bands. This annual event is a huge undertaking involving the generous time and support of parent volunteers, but well-worth the endeavor. In addition to hosting our own band festival, we also support at least 1-2 other area high school band festivals.

SENIOR RECOGNITION honors the senior musicians, rockettes and silks during the halftime performance of an October football game. Invitations are mailed and parent responses are needed.

PARADES

Our participation in the Kennywood Parade, Mt. Lebanon Halloween Parade and the Mt. Lebanon Memorial Day Parade reaffirms our commitment to share our music and marching with our own and neighboring communities.

NOVEMBER

LIGHT-UP NIGHT begins the celebration of the winter holiday season in Mt. Lebanon. The band participates in this evening by performing in the Mt. Lebanon Business District.

JANUARY/FEBRUARY

SPAGHETTI DINNER is an annual evening of good food and good music. Proceeds directly benefit the band students' trip credit accounts.

8th GRADE PARENTS INFORMATIONAL MEETING is a presentation about the Marching Blue Devils given by Ms. Marino and Band Builders Executive Board Members. It is helpful in preparing parents for the commitment they and their band student(s) are making in becoming a part of the Marching Blue Devils.

MAY

BAND BANQUET is a celebration of the band season at an area restaurant. It honors all band members and gives tribute to the band seniors. Invitations are mailed and responses are needed.

AUDITIONS for rockettes and silks are usually the last week in May. A week of practicing routines precedes these auditions.

Auditions for drum major, rockette captain and silk captain are in the beginning of June.

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

BAND TRIP

This yearly event is greatly anticipated by all band members. Past trips have included Disney World, Virginia Beach, Gator Bowl and Myrtle Beach. Information about the band trip is given by Ms. Marino at the Band Builders General Membership Meetings.

CHAPERONES are parents who volunteer to help the Band Director during performances. Interested persons must be members of the Band Builders. An informational meeting explaining responsibilities is usually held in August.

CHECKLIST – what to pack for all performances (games, parades, festivals, trip)

Musicians:

- Band shoes Socks
- Yellow band T-shirt
- Band pants
- Band jacket
- Sash
- Hat
- Rain coat in bag
- Instrument
- Any blue, gold or white winter gear for cold nights

Rockettes:

Backpack can only hold:

- Warm-up Jacket and Pants

All Parts of Uniform Include:

- Tights
- Socks
- Briefs (aka Spankies)
- Body Suit
- Vest
- Skirt
- Shoes
- 2 Pairs of Gloves
- Rain Coat in Bag

Also Bring:

- Band Shirt
- Personal bag with a change of clothes
- Lock for locker
- Extra Make-up (to apply before we leave)
- Brush
- Hair Ribbons
- Any blue, gold or white winter gear for cold nights

Silks:

Backpack can only hold:

- Warm-up jacket

All parts of uniform include:

- Pants
- Vest
- Bodysuit
- Socks
- Shoes
- White gloves
- Rain Coat in Bag

Also bring:

- Band Shirt
- Personal bag with a change of clothes
- Lock for locker
- Hair Ribbons
- Any blue, gold or white winter gear for cold nights

Please note: Garment bag is to be used for the uniform only. Additional clothes should be placed in a separate bag.

FUNDRAISERS are sponsored throughout the year for those students and their parents who choose to participate. Proceeds from these activities provide band students with trip credits which help offset their expenses for the annual band trip.

The web site is a source of information about the fundraisers listing dates and times for deadlines and distributions.

MOUNT LEBANON BAND BUILDERS is a parent organization formed to promote and support worthy activities for members of the marching band program. Membership is \$10 per person or \$15 per family.

NEWSLETTER

You will receive one newsletter per year. The newsletter will be mailed to your home in late May. Of utmost importance in this newsletter are the physical examination form and the uniform measurement form.

TRIP CREDIT ACCOUNT is an individual band student's account which maintains his/her fundraising money for the annual band trip. For every fundraiser in which a student participates, a certain portion pays for the item and the remaining money (the trip credits) is placed directly into the student's trip credit account.

WEB SITE: www.leboband.com provides updates on events, a calendar to scan the activities for the current month, a photo gallery and general information about the Marching Blue Devils. This is your most important source for updated band information.