

2023 SCWEST MARCHING WARRIORS POLICIES AND PARTICIPATION FEES

Rehearsals

Members of the Marching Warriors are required to attend all scheduled rehearsals starting on July 25th and ending October 24th. This includes our overnight band camp July 31 - August 6. There will also be rehearsals scheduled in late May and June, but all members will submit a calendar to me with your personal events and activities so that I can try and avoid conflict during this time. We can't completely avoid rehearsing between the end of this school year and July 25th, but I would like to honor that as "your time" and allow marching band to be a minimal intrusion.

Performers who work are expected to request off for marching band rehearsals.

The rehearsal schedule may be altered if other events conflict with Tuesday and Thursday night. We should know these instances in advance and will provide ample notice of a change to the evening rehearsal schedule.

Performers may be excused from rehearsal for illness, family emergencies or school sponsored athletics and activities that conflict. For an absence due to illness to be considered excused, Mr. Meyer must be notified by a **PARENT**.

Unexcused absences will be handled in the following manner.

The first unexcused absence will prompt a written warning to parents and performers.

The second unexcused absence will result in suspension from a performance. The SCW Activities Director will be notified of the second unexcused absence and Mr. Meyer will request approval to remove the performer following the next unexcused absence. If that approval is granted, the performer and family will be notified that a third unexcused absence will result in removal from the marching band with no refund given if funds have been disbursed for the students music, show design, uniform materials and other costs associated with previous events attended. If a performer is removed from marching band for unexcused absences, they must appeal to Mr. Meyer and the SCW Activities Director for re-entry into the marching band the following season.

Performers are expected to be on time to rehearsals. Three (3) late-arrivals to rehearsal will combine to constitute one (1) unexcused absence.

Our rehearsal time is where we turn individuals into an ensemble. When a performer is absent for a rehearsal, they get behind in ensemble learned activities. The marching band falls further behind having to re-teach at the following rehearsal to catch up the performer that missed the previous rehearsal. I understand and accept that absences are at times unavoidable, but it is critical that performers do everything possible to limit absences and, in the event of an absence, absent performers make efforts to get caught up prior to the next rehearsal.

Student Athletes: If you play a fall sport (Volleyball, Football, Soccer, Softball, Cross Country), you can still participate in marching band, but you may be frequently late to evening practices due to games. It is critical that you get to rehearsal as soon as your event is over. This may mean at times you'll need to secure a ride separate from the team to return home immediately following a road game or event. I will always allow your participation in athletic games to take priority over a marching band rehearsal, but in return I expect that you are making every effort to minimize the amount of rehearsal time you are missing. Our in class rehearsals will be beneficial to student athletes who miss portions of evening rehearsals.

Enrollment Agreement

Performers who wish to participate in the SCW Marching Band must be enrolled in the Concert Band Class for Fall of 2023 and Spring of 2024. Marching band rehearses during class time, so you must be in the class in order to not miss critical learning and skills practice. Performers must remain in the concert band for the second semester because the high school band classes are designed to develop instrumental music skills in a broad range of curriculum whereas the marching band focuses solely on a specific short-term performance goal. In order to continue developing a high quality marching band, performers must maintain enrollment in high school band classes to ensure continued development of high quality instrumental music skills.

If you have a scheduling conflict with the concert/marching band class on A days, 1st block 7:20am - 9:20am, you will not be able to participate in marching band. The jazz ensemble exemption is no longer available.

NON-MUSICIAN COLOR GUARD MEMBERS ARE EXEMPT FROM THE CONCERT BAND ENROLLMENT POLICY THOUGH YOU ARE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED TO ENROLL IN THE HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT BAND AND LEARN AN INSTRUMENT.

INDOOR COLOR GUARD: If you were a member of the Indoor Color Guard you are expected to continue as a member of the fall color guard to be eligible for continued participation in the Indoor Color Guard. We view our color guard activity as a full year activity. Your entry into the color guard program may be through indoor color guard, but once you are in the program, you are expected to participate in fall and winter to remain as a color guard member.

Participation Fees and Volunteer Requirements

General Marching Band Participation Fee: \$300.00

Despite our robust fundraising programs, our budget still has an approximately 40% gap in revenue vs expenses. To close this gap, students are charged a participation fee of \$300.00. A \$100.00 non-refundable deposit is required by **April 1, 2023**. This is due to the fact that design and composition of the fall marching band show begins in April and requires a start-up cost. If a student chooses not to participate after this process has begun, there is no way of recovering the initial start-up costs.

Students and families who are experiencing financial hardships may appeal to the director for a reduced fee or exemption from the fee. If this is granted, the student and family will be asked to increase volunteer efforts where applicable. Appeals are reported to SCW Administration for review and guidance. The remaining \$200.00 of the General Marching Band Participation Fee will be due by **August 1, 2023**.

Band Camp: Student Fee: \$200.00.

Each summer we attend an off-campus facility for band camp. Camp is required for membership in the SCW Marching Band. If a performer cannot attend band camp, their ability to participate in marching band is severely impacted as we learn a significant portion of our visual show during camp. In addition to this, the band as a whole has to endure several rehearsals of re-teaching as we catch up performers who were not at band camp. If there is an absolutely unavoidable conflict, please contact Mr. Meyer immediately to determine whether or not there will be a way to work around this absence.

Volunteer Hours Request:

The annual budget for our competitive marching band season is approximately \$60,000.00. The expenses for marching band include hiring seasonal staff, show design and original music composition, props and uniform materials for show presentation, travel and equipment expenses, etc. In addition to this budget, each year we are desiring to make capital purchases to replace aging instruments and equipment in order to continue providing a high quality musical experience for the members of the band.

Fall 2023 Specific Funding Event: We are scheduled to travel to Oklahoma in October for an exciting marching experience. I would like to commit fundraising efforts to this event to minimize, or possibly eliminate additional out of pocket expenses for this trip.

A large portion of our budget revenue is generated through fundraising which requires volunteers. For this reason, we request that band families commit to a minimum of 20 volunteer hours at fundraising events during the 2023-2024 school year. Most of these hours will be completed by students through their required volunteer responsibilities at the Oktoberfest Food Booth and The Craft Fair. 20 seems like a large number, but these two events alone, which are all-hands-on-deck events, will help you quickly reach 20. This is on an honors system, volunteer hours for families will not be tracked, nor will there be consequences for anyone who does not meet this minimum. This is simply something that we ask that families try to do. We cannot stress enough the importance of robust parent participation in the success of your student's band program.

Performances

The Marching Band will perform at Football Games, Saturday Competitions, Pep Assemblies and the Homecoming Parade.

Football Games: On Friday nights, the marching band provides a spirited atmosphere for spectators and players before, during and after the game. Students will perform a pre-game show, pep band music in the stands during games and a half-time show.

Saturday Competitions: We will attend 5 marching band competitions in September and October. We will compete for a panel of judges. Our scores are compared to other bands and awards are presented to the top scoring bands. We have been fortunate to be successful in competition for many years. It is important that marching band students reserve the entire day for a marching band competition. We do not receive our performance times until two weeks prior to the event. Some competitions are all day events with multiple performances possible.

Homecoming Parade: The SCW Activities Director has made it clear that members of the marching band are required to participate in the marching band for the homecoming parade above all other clubs and activities. This is due to their visual performance contribution to the parade. An exemption can be made for a club or activity voted president or vice president. ***The club sponsor must petition Mr. Meyer and Mr. Oetting in order for a student to be excused from participating with the Marching Band.***

Pep Assemblies: Marching Band performers will serve on behalf of the SCW Student Council as the musical group for school assemblies. All members of the marching band are required to participate with the exception of members of Cheer, Dance and Drill, Student Council members in charge of operation of the assembly and students who have to leave for PM Lewis and Clark sessions. **If you are a member of Warrior Vision, you must have Mr. Jackson request an exemption from Mr. Meyer.** If you are a part of any group that is performing for a portion of the assembly, you can participate during that segment, but are expected to perform with the band prior to and following that segment. The same applies for athletes who are being recognized during segments of the assembly.

An unexcused absence from any performance will automatically prompt a hearing with Mr. Meyer and Mr. Oetting where recommendation for removal from marching band will be considered. In that hearing, the performer can appeal removal by agreeing to having no more unexcused absences during the season with the understanding that an additional unexcused absence beyond that point will result in automatic removal.

Performers who are removed from marching band during a season for unexcused absences must appeal to Mr. Meyer and Mr. Oetting to be reinstated to the marching band in the following season.

The tardy policy for rehearsals also applies to performances. Three (3) late-arrivals constitute one (1) unexcused absence.

SCW Band Citizenship and Medical Physical/Insurance Requirement

Marching Band Performers are required to adhere to the St. Charles School District Activities and Athletics Code of Conduct.

Directors Note: The Director of Bands (Mr. Meyer) reserves the right to refuse participation for any student who has had excessive discipline issues that are deemed damaging to the culture and environment of the SCW Marching Band. A hearing with Mr. Meyer and Mr. Oetting will be held if Mr. Meyer deems a student to be in this category.

Marching Band Students are required to have an up-to-date Medical Physical on file at the Activities Department and provide proof of insurance. As of 2019, all physicals are now valid for two (2) school years.

To submit proof of insurance, emergency contact information and copies of physical forms, families will register for the SCW rSchool Today student management system. Additional information and instructions will be available at the Marching Band kick-off meeting on February 28, 2023.

REGISTER FOR 2023 MARCHING BAND

Scan the QR Code to complete the registration form

or

visit www.scwestband.org to access the form from a desktop computer

