

Who Does What in the Patriots Marching Band?

Students:

- Become better musicians and performers.
 - Gain self-confidence.
 - Make Friends.
- Learn to be good team members.
 - Learn to be responsible.
- Grow through the process of striving toward the group's goal.
- Keep track of their stuff and come prepared.
- **Have fun while and through working hard.**

Staff:

Help students to become better musicians and performers
Teach music, movement, and performance skills
Set high and clear expectations and support students' efforts to be the best they can be.
Encourage love of music through teamwork, dedication and responsibility.
Be creative and enthusiastic

Parents:

- Encourage your child to give their best.
 - Encourage all the students.
 - Attend parades
 - Be positive at all parades regarding all bands.
 - Support the staff. They're working hard for your kids' benefit.
 - Be flexible and positive.
 - Attend your school's Boosters meetings
 - Ask questions and offer assistance.
 - Get to know other parents & the students – esp. between schools – and the staff.
 - Fundraise
 - Happenings Books/Check Reward Books
 - Fruit Sale
 - Winter and Spring Plant Sale
 - Ask businesses for support
 - Band Blitz
 - Prepare and serve meals during the season on special event days
 - Provide water/drinks for parades and practices
 - Maintain your kid's uniform - measure, hem, repair, send for cleaning, monitor the whereabouts of them.
- Drive truck and trailer or help out with the trailer crew.
 - Help with loading and unloading
 - Help at Spat Camp
 - Maintain the patriotsmarchingband.org website
 - Use email newsletters to communicate as much as possible
 - Print and mail newsletters to those not on email
 - Help collect and organize payments and forms
 - Take and share photographs
 - Provide publicity for Patriots
 - Videotape parades
 - Drive kids for Band Blitz fundraiser
 - Order and distribute product orders such as Patriots t-shirts, polo shirts, and sweatshirts
- **DO whatever is needed to support the students and staff**
- SOOOO . . . What will you do? (over!)**

Parent Volunteer Form

Where Can You Help?

Season Preparation

Uniforms

- Mend & organize prior to fitting
- Assist w/ fitting & distribution
- Assist w/ end-of-season check-in

Equipment

- Organize shirt & sweatshirt order & delivery
- Videotaping for practice (as needed) & parades

Trailer

- Drive trailer (must provide vehicle with power brakes)
- Trailer maintenance and repair
- Uniform and instrument carts building and repair

Performance support

- Hair help
- Last-minute uniform mending & "crisis management"
- Water & soft drinks

Telephoning

- Lining up volunteer help
- End-of-trip calling tree

Band Blitz Fundraiser – Saturday, May 8th

- Drive student groups (need at least 20 parents)
- Counting/organizing donations (2-3 people)
- Lunch help (2-3 people)

Communications/Data management/ Media

- Collect/sort/enter payments
- Collect/sort/enter forms
- Photography
- Publicity
- Web information updates
- Assist with annual mailing

Hospitality

- Meal help – Saturday practice, May 19th
- Meal help – Spat Camp (2 dinners, 1 lunch)
- Shopping for above

Other skills that I'd like to share _____

Best to contact me by phone at (home, work, or cell) _____

Best to contact me by email at (home or work) _____

Name _____ Student's name _____

Student's school _____ Home phone _____

Cell phone _____ Work phone _____

Home email _____ Work email _____

Comments:

Please return this form to an Patriots Marching Band Director ASAP!

PATRIOTS POINTERS FOR PARENTS

AN ANNUAL TIP SHEET (2010 EDITION)

Start times for parades and practices?

Practices begin at the times noted on the schedule. Arrive 10-15 minutes early. Arrival times on parade days are 15 minutes prior to departure time.

What is my daughter's/son's responsibility for the uniform?

Each band member will receive a uniform for which she/he is responsible. The uniform comes in a garment bag and includes gloves, shoulder cords, and a hat. All uniforms have been dry cleaned and mended. Band parents have already gone through the uniforms to mend as many things as possible. However, some things may have been missed. Please go over the uniform carefully and fix anything you find. Also, check the hem of the pants to make sure there's a mild break in the front pressed crease (yes, they need to put the pants on). *Parade judging points can be lost on uniform problems.*

You may need to dry clean the uniform during the season. Gloves may also need washing throughout the season. Students should also keep 2-4 safety pins on the inside of their uniform top for emergency purposes.

What kind of socks, shoes, and marching t-shirts are needed?

Rubber-soled black leather shoes – shoes that can be polished – and black socks are part of the uniform for everyone but color guard and commanders. Shoe polish for the trip is needed.

Color Guard will place their own shoe order together. Approximate cost is \$35 for their shoes. Wait for word from your student about this.

Under the uniform, *all* students MUST wear a *plain* white t-shirt -- no writing or printing whatsoever – and thin, soccer-type shorts so uniform coats and pants may be removed right away in cases of overheating without revealing undergarments.

Black marching shoes can be ordered from Band Shoppe or other such companies. The kind we use are called Drillmasters (with their “patented rolled heel”). Band Shoppe's phone number is 800-457-3501 (fax: 800-874-3635) and their price is usually \$23.95/pair when 3 or more pairs are ordered.

http://www.bandshoppe.com/catalog/productDetail.do?p=Drillmasters_Marching_Band_Shoes

Annual Patriots season t-shirts (band members)

Each student will have a Patriots 2010 season t-shirt ordered for him or her. Please ask your son/daughter about dollar amount (checks to "Patriots Marching Band") and timeline. Most sections of the band tend to get section t-shirts with their own designs, too.

Red Patriots polo shirts (parents)

The Official Patriots parent shirt is a red Patriots polo (a sleeveless version is available for women). Interested parents can use the order form included in this packet to order their shirts. Please include payment to "Patriots Marching Band" with the shirt order.

What should marchers do to prepare for parades?

1) Eat well the day of the parade (including breakfast!), and drink lots of fluids -- water or Gatorade-type drinks – daily or at least no later than the day before a parade or practice. Many of the heat and fatigue problems over the years could have been prevented with normal food and water consumption.

2) Bring instrument and complete uniform, on time, to the meeting site.

Exactly where are the Patriots going and when is the trip?

The 2010 Seattle trip dates are Thursday, July 1st, to Wednesday, July 7th. We will be marching in two parades while in Seattle. On Sunday July 4th, we will be marching in 4th of July celebration parades in Edmonds, WA and Burien, WA. At the June 7th parent trip meeting, you'll receive a detailed daily itinerary which the Directors will review with us and which usually includes the address and emergency phone number for each night's stop.

What meals are provided?

The daily itinerary lists which meals are provided. Typically, most breakfasts and a couple other meals, including the banquet, are included in the total trip cost. Fast food meals are most common, although some kids will seek a "sit-down" meal or two as relief from the fast food routine.

How and who do I pay for the trip?

This year the Patriots Marching Band is testing a new payment method. Macy's Group Travel will be taking care of all billing for the trip and therefore payments will be made out to Macy's Group Travel instead of the Patriots Marching Band. An advantage that Macy's can provide to families is the ability to use credit card to pay for the trip at a small 2% convenience fee. Trip cost projects to be approximately \$850. Please refer to the Macy's Individual Invoice Form in this packet for more information.

How much spending money do kids usually bring?

Generally, \$150 to \$200 is enough (depending on how much shopping you expect, or expect to allow, your child to do). Visa Bucks, debit card or similar types of cards are strongly encouraged, and some cash is also helpful. Students should bring their school picture ID and/or driver's license.

What about medications?

One of the chaperones is always an M.D., P.A., or R.N. Included in this packet is a health form which **MUST** be completed and turned in ASAP, and no later than **April 8th** or else your student will not be allowed to march on the street after that date. **Last tetanus shot date must be on the form.** All medication -- prescription and non-prescription -- that students will have with them on the trip should be listed on the form and must be brought in original containers.

What to pack?

Students are allowed one MEDIUM suitcase (26") and a carry-on bag to keep with them on the bus. One change of clothes per day generally will suffice. Be practical. Some students divide or share certain items to better utilize space (hair dryer, one shampoo bottle, one large tube of toothpaste, etc.)

Names should be on everything.

Tie something or make distinctive markings to help identify your black luggage.

Send along a few large zip-lock bags for wet, dirty clothes.

Casual clothes are appropriate.

They don't need a new outfit every day – jeans & shorts can be worn more than once.

One nice outfit for the banquet near the end of the trip.

A small, light blanket and small pillow for the bus.

A light jacket or hooded sweatshirt.

Toiletries plus moleskin, band-aids, safety pins.

How can they call home?

Calls cannot be charged to their rooms, but students can use their cell phone or calling card.

UNIFORM ETIQUETTE

Any uniform, be it military, football, marching band, whatever, carries a lot of pride and history with it. Therefore you are not merely wearing clothes. You are wearing a legacy.

While you are in your Patriots uniform you are representing our program, our schools, and our communities, not just yourself. Therefore, there are few guidelines we must follow to insure the integrity of all we represent.

The uniform must be treated with respect at all times. It's a privilege to be in a Patriots uniform. You represent all of the alums that have worn a Patriots uniform before you and you also represent all that is "The Patriots" organization when you wear it.

Take care of your uniform properly:

- Always Hang it up correctly and neatly.
- Make sure it is not missing parts or damaged.
- When carrying uniform or parts of uniform carry them neatly. (Draped over you arm not in a ball, etc)
- When not in use it is in its garment bag.

Wear your uniform properly:

- Don't push up the sleeves.
- Don't roll up the pants.
- Don't wear the hat backwards, etc.
- You should never look disheveled (that's sloppy) in your uniform.

Never Run in Uniform. (unless a director tells you to do so) This is a dignity and pride thing.

Do not leave your uniform lying around. It should be hung up or lying flat on the ground in a garment bag only. You should always have it stored in a designated spot or with you. (That means don't leave it hanging on a tree next to the buses while you get something to drink.) You are responsible for your uniform.

There is NO eating or drinking in uniform except for water and only when directed by a director. (For obvious reasons...white jacket and ketchup...not pretty!) There may be certain circumstances where we must eat in uniform and the directors will tell you when and how.

Demeanor in uniform (how you act): While in uniform you are expected to be polite, kind, respectful, and dignified at all times. No wild/ruckus behavior, rude language, or outrageousness actions while in uniform. Remember who you represent – not just yourself!

Sitting and the uniform: In a clean chair (that you have checked for cleanliness) only. Do not sit on the ground, street, wooden bench, retaining wall, etc unless directed by director. Too many dirty surfaces out there! Gum is a big enemy as are grease and oil! We are playing in the streets after all and that stuff is everywhere! If you are instructed to sit down, try to find something to put on the surface first you will be sitting on...towel, gloves, back of gauntlet, etc. Beware of what you lean up against!!!! White jackets...need we say more?

When IN UNIFORM we mean IN UNIFORM. The phrase, IN UNIFORM or IN FULL UNIFORM are the same thing. That means you are completely dressed, pants, socks, shoes, jacket, gloves, hat and plume. Everything is buttoned up, closed, fastened, just like you would be going down the street. (That includes hair and jewelry, etc) You will remain IN UNIFORM until you hear otherwise from a director or commander. (Section leaders can make a call only when you are in a sectional situation and it is still with approval from the commanders) Again, this is a pride thing. We do things as a group so that we look professional and uniform at all times especially when we are in front of "outsiders".

There are many times when we are IN PARTIAL or HALF UNIFORM (i.e.: hot day, long wait before step off, rain, etc) the directors or commanders will tell you what they want. Here are some examples:

IN PARTIAL...No hats, no gloves
IN PARTIAL...No hats, no jackets.

pretty self-explanatory . . . You will be told what to do with the parts you are not wearing, where to put them, when you will need them, or where to get them (i.e. plumes), etc. NOTE: when IN PARTIAL UNIFORM everything you're still wearing must be in full dress. This means if you are in pants without the jacket all pants are zipped up completely and shoes are on and tied, etc. Again, everyone looks the same.

When we are IN PARTIAL UNIFORM or HALF UNIFORM the unused pieces will be placed near us in a uniform fashion, the directors or commanders will show everyone how that will be done. (i.e. hats on the ground, jackets neatly folded on top of hats.)

AFTER A PARADE: You are to remain IN FULL UNIFORM until you are told by a director or commander to remove hats, gloves, jackets or whatever. There is nothing worse than to see a group in all various stages of dress when they are leaving the parade route. We will be very aware of weather (heat and over heating) so you won't die in uniform. It may be uncomfortable for a bit just deal! Again, it's a director or commander decision only, not section leaders.

And lastly, **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOU UNIFORM!** Not your parents, not your friends, not your dog, **YOU!** Success starts with the pride we take in our uniforms!

Thank you,

Your Patriots Directors

Fine System for Uniform Infractions

Replacement gloves	\$2
Replacement shoulder/honor braids	\$5
Pants hung incorrectly on hanger (1 st offense)	\$5
Uniform incorrectly hung on hanger or off hanger (1 st offense)	\$10
Repeat offense of above two infractions	\$15
Replacement hats (band or colonials)	\$40
Other offenses as cited by Directors	(case-by-case rate)
Replace lost uniform – band block or red auxiliary	\$450
Replace lost uniform – colonial	\$725