

Fall Schedule Overview

***Weekly Guard Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM**

***Weekly Percussion Rehearsals: Mondays, 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM**

First Football Game: September 25, 2020

This is a home game against Mount Carmel High School. Typically the BAHS Marching Band plays all home and away games. As of the writing of this syllabus, we are planning on only performing at home games and a few performances in our stadium when the football team is away.

Please see the performance schedule on page seven for more information.

Course Syllabus:
Bloomsburg High School Marching Band
2020-2021

Welcome!

Welcome returning and new students to another year of Band! I am excited for this year's work to officially begin. Because of the students' hard work, commitment, and determination to adapt to the new safety guidelines, the band had a fabulous band camp. Band is scheduled to meet during **block five** and **ONLY** on **even** days throughout the school year. As of now, there are no after school rehearsals for Brass and Wind players. Drum Line, Front Ensemble and Color Guard will meet at designated times once a week to build on the specialized skills and routines needed for the marching band show.

Until further notice, we will continue to work on our Fall Marching Band Show, "The Sound of Simon". During band camp, the students learned the entire first number both marching and playing/routine. We are excited to keep working in a safe and welcoming environment. Additionally, we will not travel to the in person Tournament of Bands competitions. Will work to participate in the online adjudication that TOB is providing. I will submit a video of our performances and we will receive feedback from adjudicators. This feedback will be useful for our growth.

Because the band does not meet everyday, it is important that students find time to review their music and practice on their own. Students are welcome to use the field on non-band days to review their drill in groups or on their own.

This year I am traveling to our three elementary schools to direct the beginning band program in addition to the high school band. Because of this, there are no mandatory lessons for high school students. If students wish to have lessons, they can contact me to schedule a time.

I look forward to having a great year of creating music with the students and their families. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Dante R. Marmo



Band Director

Bloomsburg High School
dmarmo@bloomsd.k12.pa.us
(570) 784 - 6100

“Commitment usually means: giving up convenience, going the extra mile, initiating personal discomfort, embracing confrontation, sacrificing instant gratification for the mission at hand. There are no miracle solutions. Excellence is achieved through commitment!”

-Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser

Rehearsal Procedure for the Fall

Schedule Clarification: Band rehearses on all *even* days and chorus rehearses on all odd days.

Practicing Outside:

- Drum line, front ensemble, color guard, and brass players are to store their instruments in the trailer or take them home (brass). The band trailer will remain open 10 minutes before rehearsal and 5 minutes after rehearsal.
- Woodwinds are to store instruments in the band room or take them home
- Woodwinds are not to leave their instruments in the band trailer.
 - This will allow for keeping a low number of students from congregating in one area inside.
 - Storing woodwind instruments in the band trailer will cause damage to the instrument rendering it out of order.
- Treat outside rehearsals as your after school marching band rehearsal except it is during the day. This is when we will complete our show.
- Be prepared: Always have your drill, music, instrument, pencil, and any necessary supplies for rehearsal and performances.
- Empty spit valves away from other people.
- Staff, and to the extent possible, students should wear cloth face coverings; students who are woodwind or brass wind students should wear cloth face coverings until they are to play their instruments.
- No equipment/items should be shared among students or staff; this includes clothing, mouthpieces, mallets, sticks, instruments, food, etc.
- Social distancing of 6 feet apart should be maintained while not directly participating in marching performances

Practicing Inside:

- If the weather is poor, the band will rehearse in the High School Gym and band room to divide into two groups.
- Wear masks that are adapted to the instrument. Flutes wear face shields. See Mr. Marmo for Face Shields and Masks; several are ordered.
- Staff, and to the extent possible, students should wear cloth face coverings; students who are woodwind or brass wind students should wear cloth face coverings until they are to play their instruments
- No equipment/items should be shared among students or staff; this includes clothing, mouthpieces, mallets, sticks, instruments, food, etc.
- Social distancing of 6 feet apart should be maintained while not directly participating in marching performances
- Use the garbage can to empty your spit one student at a time.
- Limit storing instruments in the band trailer or storage area and social distance.
- Brass instruments may be stored inside when it is convenient for you on these days.

Rain: Rehearsal will be held in the High School Gym.

Attendance Guidelines

Commitment and regular attendance are necessary for the success of any performing organization. Any absence, regardless of reason, causes innumerable difficulties for fellow band members and invariably requires repeated instruction and drilling for everyone at later rehearsals. When a student is absent, they are responsible for all work missed. Please see a friend/peer and/or Mr. Marmo for help.

**However, if you are sick, please stay home! Your health is more important. Virtual students will have alternate assignments for all performances.*

Attendance of Rehearsals

1. For this year, Class/Rehearsal takes place during **Block 5** on days **2, 4, and 6**. These are mandatory and this rehearsal is an academic class. Anyone skipping will receive a disciplinary action and a zero for the day.
2. This does not apply to students who are virtual as they attend class online.
3. Night rehearsals for color guard and percussion are required for those wishing to participate in those sections.
4. Refer to the school handbook.

Attendance of Performances

1. Vacations and part time jobs are not valid excuses to be used in the fall season or any **required** performances.
2. **Required performances** – Any performance listed on the band schedule is considered a required performance. This includes all parades, football games, and concerts. Students who are virtual will have a make up assignment.
3. Failure to attend a required performance without an approved excuse will result in a reduction of your quarter grade and loss of class award at the band banquet.
4. If for any reason you miss the last rehearsal prior to a performance you may not be able to march that performance. This is for safety issues. A potentially dangerous situation may occur if a student does not know any drill changes that are made on the field.

Excused Absences

1. Illness or emergency absences - Please try to contact Mr. Marmo by phone and bring a note to Mr. Marmo the next school day or the next band activity. ***Any unnotified absence from a performance due to illness will require a doctor's note or the absence will not be excused and result as a zero.***
2. Absence due to schedule conflicts with other school activities such as athletics will be excused only if Mr. Marmo is notified and it is approved in advance. If it is possible to attend both activities, you should attend both activities.
3. An excuse signed by a parent must be submitted to Mr. Marmo as soon as possible prior to the rehearsal or performance and must be approved by the director. Other than in the case of illness or emergency, which is covered in number 1, the excused absence request form should be turned in a minimum of one week prior to a rehearsal and two weeks prior to a performance.

Discipline and Rehearsals Etiquette

Expectations: Everyone (staff and students) will follow the motto: “Be Your Best” at all times.

- Speak at the appropriate times. Talking keeps you and others from hearing and learning. Raise your hand if you have something to share.
- Cell phones and gum (especially on the turf field) are **not** allowed during rehearsals or performances.
- No food or drink except water is allowed on our turf fields.
- Move with a purpose: Move quickly and efficiently to the position for the next segment.
- Be prepared: Always have your drill, music, instrument, and any necessary supplies for rehearsal and performances. If for some reason you misplaced an item, see Mr. Marmo or a section leader before rehearsal to help you.
- Be on time
- Have a teachable attitude

Discipline: Band members should be self-disciplined and self-motivated. They should feel a sense of pride and ownership of the band and show.

Discipline is one of the largest keys to a successful ensemble. The discipline for all performing ensembles is two fold – self-discipline and group-discipline.

Self-discipline is required of all performers. This type of discipline involves practicing, maintaining one’s equipment (instrument, uniform, and music), and one’s behavior as an individual during rehearsals. All three parts of self-discipline are needed in order to perform at one’s personal best, raising the level of the entire ensemble.

Group-discipline is necessary in order to achieve the best result as an ensemble. The key part of group-discipline occurs during rehearsal. Following the “rehearsal expectations” section above will result in the basics of the good group-discipline and a successful band season.

Grading

Breakdown:

- Test: Performances such as football games, parades, competitions, and concerts – 30%
- Classwork and quizzes: In class assignments, homework, and rehearsal etiquette – 70%

Developing Musicianship as a Performer

Individual practice is essential for growth as a musician. *Practice happens at home. Rehearsals and performances are done as a group!* We rehearse to learn everyone else's part and grow together as an ensemble. A high level of performance takes consistent and constructive practice. Student preparation of music is essential for the success of the student and the ensemble.

Developing Musicianship through Rehearsal Etiquette

Rehearsal Expectations:

Students are expected to maintain a high level of professionalism during rehearsal time.

Before Rehearsal:

- Instruments must be in working condition
- Have all music and drill needed for rehearsal
- Have a standard graphite pencil for marking music – NOT a pen

During Rehearsal:

- Talking stops when the director/conductor is on the podium or addressing the ensemble
 - Cell phones are put away
 - Order of on the field communication:
 - Director, staff, drum major(s), section leaders, and finally band members.
 - This order is critical to having a fun and effective rehearsal
- Raise your hand if you have question, comments, or need help
- Be prepared to be flexible in rehearsal

After Rehearsal:

- Store your instrument in the appropriate location
- Social distancing of 6 feet apart should be maintained while not directly participating in marching performances
- Clean up any papers or items you may have dropped or misplaced
- Make sure you have all your belongings

Course Syllabus:
Bloomsburg High School Marching Band
2020-2021

Bloomsburg Area High School Band Full Calendar of Required Events 2020-2021			
DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	EVENT TIME
Friday, September 25	Mount Carmel Football Game	Panther Stadium	7:00 PM
Friday, October 2	Southern Columbia Area Football Game	Panther Stadium	7:00 PM
<i>Friday, October 9</i>	<i>Possible Band Performance</i>	Panther Stadium	7:00 PM
<i>Friday, October 16</i>	<i>Possible Band Performance</i>	Panther Stadium	7:00 PM
Friday, October 23	Midwest Jr/Sr HS Football Game	Panther Stadium	7:00 PM
Friday, October 30	Central Columbia Football Game	Panther Stadium	7:00 PM
Thursday, May 13	7 th -12 th Grade Band Spring Concert	High School Auditorium	7:30 PM

Please refer to the above attendance guidelines.