



ROUND LAKE MARCHING PANTHERS



2021 SEASON INFORMATION

Thank you for your interest in joining the Marching Panthers! We are thrilled that you are thinking about being a part of the one of the most outstanding groups in our community. The marching band is a family like no other! We are sure new parents and students have many questions. This document highlights many of the important details you probably want to know. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions, though. We will try to get back to you as quickly as possible!

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BENEFITS OF JOINING MARCHING BAND

- Receive a PE waiver for the fall semester
- Make a whole bunch of new friends before school even starts
- Gain confidence, maturity, and discipline from working closely with your peers
- Make memories that will stay with you for life
- Looks great on college applications - Did you know we have actually had several alumni receive scholarships to participate in a college marching band?

COMMITMENT

It is important that every parent and student understands that when a student joins marching band, they are making a commitment for the season. In marching band, everyone starts. There is no back-up trombone. There is not a second string drumline. Everyone plays an important role. If a student quits, it can greatly affect the ensemble. It can create an unbalanced ensemble. It can leave a hole in the designs the band makes on the field. Even if all of the other students are performing well, the student that quits can leave absences that make the show look sloppy. In competition, this can bring down scores. If it is even possible for these problems to be corrected, it takes a lot of time and effort to fix. A student may need to learn new drill or music that they had already been memorizing for weeks or months, and a director may need to spend hours rewriting drill or music.

More importantly, the best rewards don't come until the end. We want students to have fun and enjoy their time in marching band. There are going to be times where some of the work will be hard, and we are going to push them. Some of the hard work that goes in during the summer does not come to fruition until the fall. If a student is not extremely excited after the first couple of sectionals and they want to quit, they have not taken part in the full marching experience. It would be like baking a cake and judging it's taste by eating just the flour.

CONFLICTS

Communication is key! We make our schedule for the entire year and stick to it as closely as possible. Our expectation is that our students are planning ahead and bringing conflicts to our attention with multiple weeks' notice (when it is not illness or a family emergency).

All rehearsals and performances are mandatory. If a student has to miss a summer rehearsal for an already planned family vacation, that is understandable. If a student is missing multiple rehearsals, especially in a row, it is going to be challenging for them to catch back up. It is not impossible, but it may feel a little overwhelming. Marching band is not like a sports team, where we have a second-string clarinet to march in someone's place. If students miss a rehearsal or performance, it is apparent and hurts the ensemble. In addition, it is critical that you are at the summer rehearsals. Those rehearsals add up to over 80 hours of instructional time. That is the equivalent of 106 days of one class during the school year. Imagine missing more than $\frac{2}{3}$ of all classes for one period during a year. With that kind of attendance record, it is impossible to be successful in that class.

SCHEDULE

Summer

Rehearsals

- June 21-25
- Weekly sectionals for guard

Preseason Camp

- 11 AM-8 PM
- August 2-6

Fall

Rehearsals (May vary occasionally due to field availability) - Monday & Wednesday - 5:30-8:30 PM

Performances

- 4 Home Football Games
- 4 Competitions
- End of Season Concert
- Some community performances

Schedule may change due to weather, rescheduling of sports, and unforeseen circumstances. We hate to make last minute changes. If they do have to happen, we try and give you as much notice as possible. The most updated information can always be found at roundlakemusic.com/calendar.

CLINICS & AUDITIONS

Members interested in joining the drumline and colorguard sections must audition. (There are no auditions for brass and woodwind members.) Color guard will have clinics to help students learn skills and become acquainted with the audition process. Drumline and Front Ensemble will have clinics through our June 21-25 rehearsals to prepare for the audition.

- Drumline & Front Ensemble clinics and auditions will be held throughout the week of June 21-25 at preseason camp.
- Color guard clinics are May 10, 18, and 20. Auditions are May 26.
- See the marching band schedule for times and details.

COVID Protocols

Marching band will be following all mitigation measures just like all other high school sports. Parents need to fill out a district COVID participation form prior to a student's participation. This will be available by Google Form.

In addition, our rehearsals will be held primarily outside. Brass and woodwind students will be required to wear specialized music PPE (bell covers on instruments, and masks while playing), which will be included in the marching band fees and purchased by the district. This PPE has been researched and implemented for the past year in numerous programs across the country.

Commonly Asked Questions

We also get many questions about participating in music and other activities. Here are some of those common questions:

Can I do marching band and honors/AP classes? Of course! Nearly everyone of our students is enrolled in at least one AP or Honors class. Most students are in multiple advanced classes.

Can I do marching band and a sport? If a student is involved in another activity during the school year, we find a way to make it work. We try our best to make sure big events for each activity do not conflict, but sometimes it is unavoidable. We communicate frequently with coaches and teachers to find ways to share time.

Do I need to be in a concert band to be in marching band? If you are a wind player, you do need to be enrolled in a curricular band. If you are on drumline or front ensemble, you do need to be in percussion ensemble. It is important to receive that music education on a daily basis and not just after school. Without that, students will fall behind students who are enrolled in the curricular ensembles.

Can I rent an instrument for marching band? Yes, we have many instruments available for marching band students. There is no instrument rental fee. We supply larger instruments like the percussion, sousaphones, etc. Students should supply their own instrument if possible.

I have never marched before. Can I be in marching band? Yes, indeed! We teach all marching fundamentals from scratch. We will have plenty of help for you along the way if you find any of the new marching techniques difficult.

COST & REGISTRATION

Below is a breakdown of the costs for marching band based on section and whether you are a new or returning student. Included is a list of what new members will receive as part of the cost of participation. Many of these items are ones that the students can keep, which is why a new member's cost is higher. Many of these items will also be reused year after year. If they lose, damage, or outgrow any items, students are responsible for the cost of a replacement item.

The only item not listed on here that may be included in the future is a mask for brass, woodwind, drumline, and front ensemble members. We will have specific masks for students. We are currently researching the best mask option for our students.

We also have fundraising opportunities to help offset this cost. We never want the cost of the activity to be a reason why a student is unable to participate. Please contact Mr. West if there are financial concerns.

IMPORTANT: Be aware that *as soon* as you submit the registration form you have agreed to pay all fees regardless if the student finishes the season or not.

Payment Due Dates

- June 25 - \$75 minimum due
- August 6 - Remaining balance due
- Returning Brass, Woodwind, Drumline, Front Ensemble members will pay their \$45 in full by June 25

	Brass, Woodwind, Drumline & Front Ensemble	Guard
New Member	Total: \$150	Total: \$249
Returning Member	Total: \$45	Total: \$150

Brass, Woodwind, Drumline & Front Ensemble	Guard
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marching Shoes • Rehearsal T-Shirt • Rehearsal Shorts • Ear Plugs • Hat • Drillbook App • Sunglasses • Gloves • Uniform Cleaning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guard Shoes • Guard Gloves • White Cold Weather Compression Shirt • Guard Shirt • Hair Bow • Guard Mask • Half-Time Uniform • Personal Guard Bag • Practice Flag/Pole • Drillbook App

Brass, woodwind, drumline, and front ensemble members will also receive a band polo in the fall as part of their course registration fee for the curricular band course.



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2021 COMMITMENT FORM

If you plan on participating in the Round Lake High School Marching Band, sign and return this form as soon as possible to Mr. West, Mrs. D., Mr. Stonehill, or Mrs. Pulver-Settler along with the first payment. (Checks can be made out to the Round Lake Fine Arts Boosters.) Both the form and the fee must be sealed in an envelope with the student's full name on it and labeled "2021 Marching Band Commitment Form and Payment." The form and first payment are due no later than June 25. Students will not be allowed to participate if the form and first payment are not turned in.

If you are using the Student Fine Arts Booster Account, please check with the Boosters to make sure there is money in the student account to cover the fees. All marching band fees must be paid off by August 6.

Once you sign this form, you are committed to participating in the band for the entire season, which includes every single rehearsal and performance. Make sure to check the preseason camp and regular season rehearsal schedule. If you have recurring conflicts with the schedule, speak with Mr. West before you make your decision. Once you submit this form, you are committing to participating in marching band for the whole season and committing to the full payment of your fees. _____

Student's Full Name (Print): _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Student Email: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Email: _____

First Payment

___ Cash _____

___ Check (If selected, please list the check number: _____)

___ Fine Arts Booster Student Account (If selected, you must fill out the transfer request from the Fine Arts Booster website prior to June 25. You must also check to make sure you have the funds in your account before requesting the transfer.)