

POWHATAN BAND & ENSEMBLES

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Co-Curricular Activity Information

***Marching Band***

# Marching Band - 2008

The 2008 edition of the Powhatan Marching Band is ready to get underway. As the PHS Band staff prepares for the fall season, it is important we have an accurate count of who is planning to participate. The high school band welcomes all returning members and rising freshmen band members into the marching band on a voluntary basis. The high school band also invites rising 8<sup>th</sup> grade band members to march an instrument based on criteria laid out by the junior high band program.

Participation in Powhatan High School's award winning marching band is an opportunity to become involved in one of the school's largest and most active extra-curricular activities. The band performs at parades, football games, community events, and band competitions including regional and national contests.

Marching Band fees for the 2008 season are as follows: Wind Instruments: \$210, Percussion \$235, and Colorguard: \$260. There will be a 20% discount offered to those students who turn in their Marching Band fees by the first day of their clinic listed on page 4. Students who are actively involved in the 2008 high school indoor ensembles will have the 20% discount option available to them through June 6, 2008. Students who pay their band fees in total by June 6, 2008, are guaranteed a spot in the show design. If you wish to join after June 6, then contact the director to ensure you can be properly incorporated into the show. There are no refunds on band fees.

Marching Band fee covers expenses for Pre-Season rehearsal, travel, band shirt, uniform rental & cleaning, and other operating expenses. The only other expenses will be for personal uniform items such as socks, marching shoes, etc. The colorguard fee includes extras such as dance shoes, gloves and make-up. The band program annually hosts the Powhatan Fall Classic marching band show. This event is the only required fund-raising for the Marching Band; however, it is advisable for students to participate in the other projects. These projects are the easiest way for students to generate ALL of their required band fees. Your marching band fee covers only a portion of the band program operating expenses. If students do not participate in fundraisers, the Band Boosters budget will not meet the needs of the band program. Students usually receive a percentage of the total fundraising income (except for Fall Classic) to apply to their band expenses.

Students will not be excluded from marching band because of financial need. It is incumbent upon each parent to make contact with the director in the event of difficulty, as a booster support fund is available on a confidential basis.

Attached is a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page to aid new parents and students in transition to high school band. We also have a Web site full of information that is constantly updated with the latest news and events: [www.powhatanbands.com](http://www.powhatanbands.com) and [www.powhatanbandboosters.com](http://www.powhatanbandboosters.com). On the left column of these sites is a band newsletter subscription box. We recommend that you submit your email address so you can get important Powhatan Bands information right into your inbox! The list is private and will not be used for anything else.

By filling out the attached form you are giving your reasonable assurance that the listed student is planning to march. Although things come up that we cannot foresee, completing this form indicates to the staff that the listed student's plan to participate. In addition to providing information about marching band, this document also allows us to get an accurate count of who is participating this season. The program must plan to ensure enough uniforms, equipment, and instruments are available for every participating student.

We look forward to your participation and involvement in the 2008 Powhatan High School Marching Band!

Regards,

Scott Gordon  
Director of Bands

 **2008 Commitment Form**

Student's name (first & last) \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Email Address (print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I am planning to march for the 2008 season.

I am seriously thinking about marching but still have questions. Can you please contact me? (Feel free to write questions on the back of this form.)

In the fall of 2008, I will be in:

8<sup>th</sup> grade     9<sup>th</sup> grade     10<sup>th</sup> grade     11<sup>th</sup> grade     12<sup>th</sup> grade

My shirt size is:  Small     Med     Large     XL     2XL     3XL

\*\*\*Mrs. Noechel must sign for all students going into 8<sup>th</sup> grade this fall who want to march. *Students who will be freshmen (9<sup>th</sup> grade) do not have to have the PJHS Director's signature.*\*\*\*

PJHS Director's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Instrument I would like to March: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email Address (print clearly): \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Student(s): By signing this document, you acknowledge understanding of and are committing to attendance at all rehearsals and performances, and to the financial obligations of the 2008 Powhatan High School Marching Band.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)/Guardian(s): By signing this document you acknowledge understanding of and are committing to your child's attendance at all rehearsals and performances, and to the financial obligations of the 2008 Powhatan High School Marching Band.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\*THIS FORM IS DUE FRIDAY, APRIL 18th, 2008\*\*\***

## Placement Clinics & Guard Auditions

The following dates are for the clinics designed to teach the marching, music and colorguard skills needed to be a member of the marching band and be placed in the proper section and part:

### Wind Instruments (placement clinic)

May 13\*, 14, and 15, 3-6pm at PHS  
(Fee paid in full by 5/13: \$168. After 5/13: \$210)

### Percussion (placement clinic)

May 13\*, 14, and 15, 3-6pm at PHS  
(Fee paid in full by 5/13: \$188. After 5/13: \$235)

### Colorguard (auditions)

May 13\*, 14, and 15, 3-6pm at PHS  
(Fee paid in full by 5/13: \$208. After 5/13: \$260)

*\*Last day for 20% discount on Marching Band Fee  
(Colorguard auditionees who do not make the unit  
will have their money promptly refunded.)*

## Summer Sectional Intensives

These rehearsals during the summer months are for the more specialized sections. This information will be announced shortly in class and on [PowhatanBands.com](http://PowhatanBands.com)

## Full Band Pre-Season Rehearsals 2008

### PRE-SEASON IS REQUIRED FOR ALL MARCHING MEMBERS

This is our summer intensive camp where we learn the marching band show. This is the time the whole band works intensively on the competition material. It is the most important activity in establishing a successful marching band in both attitude and performance. Please do not schedule any appointments during these weeks.

### 2008 Summer Pre-Season Schedule

August 4-6 - 1-6p

August 11-15 - 9a-6p

August 18-22 - 9a-6p

### 2008 Regular Season Rehearsal Schedule

Starting on Tuesday, August 26 (the week before school starts)

We will have practice every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 3p-6p.

*All rehearsals are at PHS*

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

### **How will my parents and I keep track of all of this information?**

Most importantly, there is the Powhatan Bands and Ensembles website at: [www.powhatanbands.com](http://www.powhatanbands.com). This website is updated every time there needs to be new information to be sent out. For those of you who do not have Internet access, a printed version of the exact same information is placed in an easily accessible area for students to take home to their parents. In addition, there is a periodic newsletter generated by the band program that will contain information about upcoming band events, fundraising opportunities, social events and much more!

**Parents:** we work hard to ensure that all the information you need is available as soon as possible. Between the printed updates and the Web site, we feel that we have covered our fiduciary responsibility in broadcasting information. It is then incumbent upon the parents to make efforts to retrieve information and to periodically check with the director and staff to ensure all information has been received.

### **What kind of fees can I expect?**

**If paid in full** by the first day of the Placement Audition Clinics, May 13, 2008, then you may enjoy a 20% discount on the regular fees. The 2008 marching band fees are \$210 for winds, \$235 for percussion, and \$260 for colorguard. Each wind and percussion child will also need marching shoes (\$20 per pair) and each wind player will need gloves (\$3 per pair). Colorguard and percussion members may have additional expenses listed in each group's information sheet available at their respective auditions. Money for food on trips should be planned for as well.

### **How long to competition days last?**

Competition days essentially take up the whole day. We choose competitions that do not interfere with SAT's and PSAT's. The competitions may be on the same days, but will be afternoon/evening events. We have successfully navigated these events for years.

### **Do I have to attend "Pre-Season" to do marching band? ...and where is it held?**

In short – **YES!** Pre-Season is what we call our summer intensive program that prepares the band for the competitive season. It is held at PHS. All students that plan to march need to plan to attend every rehearsal day of band camp. **If you have conflicts and still want to march, then you need to contact the director.** Conflicts are not impossible to deal with, but we just need to plan ahead.

### **Do I have to attend every rehearsal and performance/competition?**

In short – **YES!** Families of marching band members should make all plans to schedule doctor's appointments, etc. around the practice schedule. The Powhatan Bands and Ensembles Handbook covers all of the details for absences. Essentially, no excuse will be accepted for missing a competition or performance.

### **Is marching and playing hard?**

**No.** Once you are taught properly, you'll find it is quite easy and fun. Once you understand the skills involved, you will then get to develop your performance level and qualities way beyond what you thought you could do. We have never had a student who could NOT march and play at the same time.

### **Can I do this and keep up in school?**

**SURE!** Thousands and thousands of freshmen and 8<sup>th</sup> graders across the country do it every year! Once you are in the program, you will learn all of the methods the upperclassmen use to keep up with homework and class work. In fact having a network of friends in the band program can actually improve your ability to make and keep good grades (and many testimonials can attest to this!). Remember, being in marching band gives you upwards of 75 upperclassmen friends on the first day of school! You will already know about many of the things that your non-marching freshmen friends will have to find out on or after the first day of school.