

Macomb School Bands FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions)

Note: Please consider this document a draft. Macomb Band Boosters will update it as it compiles the necessary information.

How will I know what's going on in band? What if changes are made in the schedule?

There are many ways to “stay in tune” with band happenings.

- 1) Macomb bands is trying to go greener. Make sure that Cheryl McGowan (Boosters secretary) has your email address so that she can send you information at that address (c.mcgowan03@gmail.com).
- 2) Check for updates on the band website frequently (www.MacombBands.org)
- 3) Attend the monthly Band Boosters meetings (2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the MHS band room)

Is band (marching band or concert band) an activity?

No, band is a class therefore you do not have to pay an activity fee for it. You will need to pay a fee for marching uniform cleaning and maintenance.

Marching Season

The welcome to band letter says we need “mason jar lids and a drill book”. What are they? Why are they needed? Where do I purchase?

Mason jar lids can be purchased anywhere that sells canning supplies. Students use them to mark their spots as they learn the drill. The drill book is a spiral bound book of notecards that students use for their drill records. Drill books are homework and are turned in periodically for a grade. They can be purchased at Wal-Mart, Kmart etc.

Why do we need special marching shoes?

It is essential for each student to have a pair of all black marching shoes that fit well and are in good repair. Good shoes make marching easier. Also, when the band is in competition, everyone must look as uniform as possible or it could impact our performance and score. It works best if all members have the same kind/type of shoe.

What should we do if we have a conflict with marching band rehearsals (sports conflicts etc.)?

Let Mr. Wetmore know ASAP. Sports and Band have overlapped for years.

What if my student doesn't bring home or loses permission slips, contest schedules etc.

Students are given a copy in band to share with parents. Copies are also sent out via email.

What is...?

- **Band Camp:** Intensive 3 week band preparation period. Freshman learn marching basics and the entire band begins learning the marching show for the season.
- **Uniform distribution:** marching uniforms distributed by grade; maintenance and cleaning fee collected.
- **Marching competitions:** (Morton, U of I, Western Classic): band travels to various locations and performs the marching show for awards.
- **Conduct-a-thon:** 1st Macomb Band Boosters fundraiser of the year. Band performs a season premiere concert on Square. Community members are nominated and monetary pledges collected. Winners conduct the band.
- **Football games:** Band performs the Star Spangled Banner and School song for pre-game and the marching show at half time.
- **Senior recognition:** Reception for all band seniors and their parents prior to a home football game. All band families welcome.
- **Western Homecoming Parade:** Band marches in the parade and performs "Robin Hood"
- **Stunt Night:** Thursday evening of homecoming. Band performs Schools song, "Robin Hood" and marching show.
- **MHS Homecoming Parade:** Band travels by bus to the corner of Lafayette and Piper. Marches around the Square and plays "Robin Hood and the school song.
- **Chili Supper:** Only 6th-8th fundraiser each year. Event is held in the Commons and all bands perform. HS band performs the marching show on the football field in costumes. Each section picks a theme and dresses the part.