

Murray Tiger Bands



Semper

Melior



Membership Packet 2017-2018

List of Provided Information

| <u>Info Packet</u> | <u>Includes</u> |
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| General Program Information | <p>Top Reasons to Sign Up</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MTB Band Program Overview• HS Band FAQs• Who's Who in the Band?• Guide to Scheduling Band |
| Calendar | Important dates/events |
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General Program Information

- **Top Reasons to Sign Your Child Up for the Murray Tiger Band**

Though well-documented in research, this list includes a number of advantages to band participation that many might not initially consider

- **Murray Tiger Band Program Overview**

A closer look at a band that is one of the most successful programs in Kentucky

- **Who's Who?**

Short descriptions of the various roles of student members in the Murray Tiger Band.

- **How to Schedule High School Band**

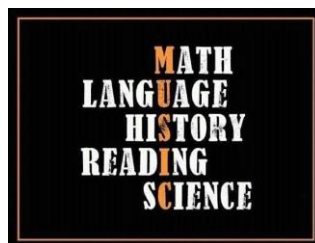
Answers to some of the biggest concerns that parents of new high school students face. Read this document carefully and completely.

Murray Tiger Bands



Top Reasons to Sign Your Child Up for Band

1. If your child is a band veteran or a member of the middle school band, they have spent years working hard to develop the skills that they have and you have already devoted time and resources toward their success. **Those investments in band need not go to waste!** Continuing in the program or into high school band will allow a child to continue to explore those skills and to develop to their full potential.
2. The key to a great high school experience is a **well-rounded experience**. Band participation offers just such an experience! Not only extremely beneficial to social development (a critical and oft-overlooked aspect of healthy teen development), the lifelong lessons of band (work ethic, responsibility, goal-setting, time management, positive team building, etc) and the documented academic benefits to students who study instrumental music in high school should not be overlooked!
3. As a parent, it is important to ensure that a child is placed in situations in which the **opportunities to create positive, healthy, and beneficial relationships** are possible. The Murray Tiger Band is an organization at Murray High School in which the overwhelming majority of members average GPAs are above 3.25. As one of the largest organization in our school district, this is a tremendous accomplishment! **Who will you want your child hanging out with?**
4. Since ancient times, music has been an important part of what it means to be a human being. **Learning to become more skillful on a musical instrument** or, for guard members, in the area of dance can be one of the greatest rewards of membership in the MTB. If you are a middle school band parent and can think back on the concerts you have seen and the incredible improvement from year to year, imagine what further instruction might bring!



MTB BAND PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Murray Tiger Band was formed in 1926; one of the oldest running band program in Kentucky. Since then, the program has a list of accomplishments and performances around the country such as: (Carnegie Hall-NYC, Meyerson Symphony Hall- Dallas, Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade-NYC, Midwest Clinic- Chicago) are to name a few.

In 1977, the marching band won Grand Champions at Band's of America marching contest. Most recently, the band won Murray State's Festival of Champions in 2012 for the first time in 35 years! We also won Festival of Champions in 2015. In state competition, the band placed 3rd place in class A (this makes the **12th straight year** the band has made the final four). The band was also named Bands of America Class 1A Super Regional Champion in Indianapolis, IN.

Murray High School has a student population of approximately 450. The 9-12 band program currently serves 77 students; that is 18% of the student body! Current rates of retention and anticipated recruitment **project a membership of 80 for 2017-2018**. That is one of the largest 1A band programs in the state!

Program offerings include symphonic band and marching band. Mr. Zeiss also teaches AP music theory for juniors and seniors. Other co-curricular/extracurricular ensembles that are available to students include jazz band, pep bands, indoor percussion, percussion ensemble, small chamber groups (woodwind choir, sax quartet, brass choir, brass quintet, etc), and jazz band. The concert band and the marching band have a longstanding tradition of distinguished performance ratings every year.

In 2016-2017, MTB band members made up nearly 20% of the total District I All-District high School Band membership. **Also, 3 students were selected to KMEA's All-State band!**

Band members are actively encouraged to participate in opportunities outside of MHS. Several students elect to participate in Murray State ensembles, Paducah Youth Symphony, or take private lessons.

HIGH SCHOOL BAND FAQ'S

Q. Does my child have to be in band the entire school year?

A. Yes. In order to be a member of the Murray Band Program, students must register to be in band for the entire year.

Q. Does my child have to be in marching band/attend summer rehearsals?

A. Although we highly suggest that students be involved with the marching program (it is the most visible aspect of our program), it is not a requirement to participate. Typically, most students do participate in marching band. For students involved with the marching band, summer rehearsals and band camp are mandatory for participation. The rehearsals in July are the most important of the whole season. We learn the majority of our show and our fundamental marching technique. This invaluable instruction simply can not be replaced or made up in some other fashion. The only exceptions for which we allow are the Governors School Program, the Governors School for the Arts, and participation in Drum Corps International. Other conflicts must be approved at the discretion of the director.

Q. What if I want to do marching band and sports?

A. Here at Murray High, we have many students who are involved in multiple activities. Every year, we have students that are in marching band and other sports (swimming, soccer, cross country, baseball, football, etc). The policy at Murray High concerning students in multiple activities are: **coaches and directors are expected to split rehearsal time evenly.** If your child wants to do both, we would work out a schedule with the coach and the student to make sure that time is spent evenly. Mr. Zeiss would need to know about this asap.

Q. My child doesn't want to go to college for music, so why be in band at all?

A. If the only thing to be gained from being in band was to be able to play an instrument better, then this would be a difficult question to answer. As it is, however, band participation provides students with so much more. Band is far more than learning about music. Band will quickly become their favorite class and will be an experience they will remember for the rest of their lives. Research shows that music enhances other academic areas and is way for students to express themselves in other ways that words cannot.

Q. Will the time commitment that band requires be a detriment to my child's academics/grades?

A. Absolutely not! To the contrary, MTB band members are among the highest academic achievers in the building. We regularly have Governor Scholars in our ranks. Some can initially feel overwhelmed, but there is a rhythm and pace to which they become accustomed. Their time-management and work ethic will improve to meet the schedule demands/skills that will serve them throughout their lives.

WHO'S WHO?

Wind players

- This group includes woodwind and brass players.

Percussionists

- This group includes both the on field drum line members and the musicians that are part of the front ensemble (pit percussion)

Guard Members

- This group includes the members of the band who uses various equipment (flag, rifle, other props) and dance technique to provide the advanced visual elements during the performance.



Calendar

This event list is a tentative schedule of the entire marching band season from summer rehearsals until the beginning of August. A more detailed calendar will be released once the school calendar has been approved.

Attendance is the first responsibility of every MTB band member

April 11th, 18th, and 25th (Tuesday)

Spring Training @ MHS 3:30pm to 5:00pm

May 2nd and May 9th (Tuesday)

Spring Training @ MHS 3:30pm to 5:00pm

May 16th

Mandatory marching band meeting- 6:30pm at MHS

Financial Information

Band Fee Overview

This will help you understand the fees that are charged to band members

Understanding the Costs

This will help you understand the costs associated with a competitive, successful high school band program, the funding sources we have to meet these costs, and will help you to appreciate the fundraising needs of a program like ours.

Financial FAQs

Answers to some of the most common financial questions with regard to band participation.

Band Fee Overview

Q: What expenses are covered by band fees?

A: The quick answer is Staff, Transportation, Food, and Show Shirt

Q: How much does it cost to operate the marching band?

A: From June to November, we will spend approximately \$36,494.40

Q: How much will I have to pay for my student to participate in marching band?

A: Depending on which section your child is in will determine how much you will pay. Everyone will pay \$250 for their band fees. Other incidentals may apply. Please see the attached chart.

Band Fee Check List

| | | |
|--|------------|--|
| EVERYONE | | |
| Band Fee (due July 17th) | 250 | |
| Hotel Fee (due Oct. 1) | 50 | |
| IF APPLICABLE | | |
| | | |
| Shoes | 32 | |
| Black Gloves (non-guard) | 5 | |
| Guard Uniform | 145 | |
| | | |
| | | |
| Total Expenses for my child | | |

*subject to change based on nights needed and the number of students

FINANCIAL FAQs

Q. Why do we have to start paying in April for a season that doesn't start until fall?

A. The design phase of our show has already begun. Drill and music are being constructed for the 2017 season. The drill and music alone will cost approximately \$5000 for 2017. We have to have the funds in place to cover the cost of show production during this time. In addition, a payment in April represents a financial commitment on behalf of all members and a commitment to participate in the 2017 marching band. We base our drill numbers (number of spots written on the field for our show) on those who have paid. **Unlike sports, there is no bench. Everyone starts!**

Q. Can't I just pay it all at once?

A. Yes, you have two payment options: 1) pay the base fee all at once on or before the **May payment date**, or 2) follow the payment coupon schedule. **MONEY NEED NOT BE AN OBSTACLE TO BAND PARTICIPATION.** *If circumstances warrant, alternative payment schedules can be arranged with Mr. Zeiss. Please communicate with him immediately.*

Q. Are there adjusted fees for free/reduced lunch?

A. No. Reduced rates for free/reduced students do not apply to elective areas like band. In terms of lunch and core areas, government subsidies replace the revenue lost by providing lowered fees. If band fees create a hardship, please communicate with Mr. Zeiss to work out an alternate payment plan that will be a better fit for your situation. JaneAnn Turner with family resources may be able to assist as well. Janeann.turner@murray.kyschools.us. Again, **MONEY NEED NOT BE AN OBSTACLE TO BE IN BAND.**

Q. What does paying the band fee get my child?

A. Probably one of the best values you'll find! Band members will perform a marching show created by some of the most talented artists in the business. They will get to travel to locations around our state (and others) competing in a variety of venues. They will have opportunities to be exposed to colleges and universities across our state. They will have individualized, focused instruction from experienced specialists for two weeks during the summer and throughout the season that will help to advance their abilities faster than ever before. They will be members of one of the finest band programs in the state of Kentucky. **Compare what our band fees are and what students receive over the entire school year to what it costs to send your child to two weeks of summer camp.** Our fees are low compared to those of other band programs across the state.

LIST OF FORMS AND DEADLINES

| Form | Due Date |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Medical Release Form | Monday, June 5 th |
| Travel Authorization | Monday, June 5 th |
| Marching Band Attendance Policy | Monday, June 5 th |
| Handbook Policy Form (will be passed out the first day of school) | Friday, August 4 th |
| Payment Schedule | Payment schedule |
| Murray Independent Volunteer Background Check (form will be passed out the first day of band camp) | ASAP |
| | |



Murray High School Tiger Band 2017 Band Camp Registration Form

Student's First Name: _____

Student's Last Name: _____

Student's E-Mail Address: _____

Instrument: _____ Student Cell Phone: _____

Student's Home Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Grade Level (Fall 2017) _____ Home Phone: _____

Parent(s) Name(s): _____

Parent's E-Mail Address: _____

Work Phone (Mother): _____ Cell Phone: _____

Work Phone (Father): _____ Cell Phone: _____

T-Shirt Size (S, M, L, XL, XXL) _____

****RETURN THIS FORM AND THE NON-REFUNDABLE \$75.00 DEPOSIT NO **LATER
THAN **April 25th, 2017** TO:**

**Murray High School Band Booster OR
501 Doran Road
Murray, KY 42071**

**Use PAYPAL via our website at
www.semper-melior.com**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Amount Paid _____

Check # _____ Cash _____

2017-2018 MURRAY HIGH SCHOOL BAND
MEDICAL RELEASE/PARENT PERMISSION FORM

INSTRUCTIONS: Parents or guardians must complete this form for each student participant as a prerequisite for the student to participate in band activities. The band director will bring the completed forms to band activities.

Age _____ ___ Male ___ Female

Student Name _____

Home Address _____

Insurance Co. _____

Home Phone _____

Policy No. _____

Parent/Guardian _____

Name of Insured _____

Address _____

Group No. _____

Home phone _____

Student's Doctor _____

Parent's e-mail address: _____

Doctor's Address _____

Father's work phone _____

Doctor's Phone _____

Mother's work phone _____

Please describe completely any medical condition (past or present) being treated which may recur or be a factor in medical treatment (include allergies, medicine reactions, disease of any kinds, physical handicaps, heart or lung problems, seizures, convulsions, blackouts, etc.). If currently taking medication, state the medication and the prescribing physician and phone number.

(attach a separate form if necessary)

Parent/guardian please sign below to grant permission to treat:

I give permission for immediate medical treatment as required in the judgement of the attending physician. Notify and/or any persons listed above as soon as possible.

Parent/guardian signature:

_____ Date _____

I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION DESCRIBED ABOVE IS ACCURATE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE. I UNDERSATND THAT EACH INDIVIDUAL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS/HER OWN INSURANCE COVERAGE DURING THESE ACTIVITIES. I GIVE PERMISSION FOR MY CHILD TO ATTEND 2017-2018 MHS BAND ACTIVITIES AND HEREBY RELEASE MURRAY HIGH SCHOOL, THE MURRAY BOARD OF EDUCATION, AND ANY ADULT IN CHARGE OF THE GROUP FROM ANY LEGAL OR FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY WITH RESPECT TO MY CHILD'S PARTICIPATION.

Signature of parent/guardian _____ Date _____

Murray Independent Marching Band Travel Authorization

Responsible Faculty: Tim Zeiss, Director of Bands Destination: All Band Events
Transportation: School Buses Time: Dates as per published current season
Locations of competitions will be announced at least 3 weeks prior to the event.

Student Name: _____ Mr. Zeiss will be in complete charge during all band events. Students will be expected to adhere to all school and band rules during all events. Mr. Zeiss will work with booster officers to assign chaperones and staff members to supervisory duties during trips and students are expected to respect these individuals and follow all instructions they are given. The undersigned understands these rules and expectation and that any violation of rules or expectations will result in school and/or band disciplinary action as determined by Mr. Zeiss and the principal.

Student Signature

Date

I hereby give permission for my child to travel with the Murray High School Tiger Band during all band events as per the online and published calendar. I hereby give permission for my child to be under the direction and supervision of Mr. Zeiss and any chaperone or staff member that may be assigned. I understand that my child must travel with the Murray Tiger Band to each destination and remain with the band while there. I understand that I may transport my child home from a site other than Murray High School. I understand that in accordance with School Board Policy, only a parent/guardian may transport a child home from a site other than Murray High School and that this is only allowed after the event when the child is released by Mr. Zeiss. I understand that, to get my child released, a parent/guardian signature is required on a band form held by the assigned chaperone of my child's bus. I understand that upon arrival to Murray High School, I am responsible for providing/arranging my child's transportation home in a timely manner.

Parent Signature

Date

MARCHING BAND ATTENDANCE POLICY

Please review the marching band calendar. Parents and students should be aware of the Murray Tiger Band Attendance Policy. The MTB is an ensemble with a tradition of outstanding local, state, and national performance. IN order to uphold this tradition and compete at the highest levels, we have a rigorous rehearsal and performance schedule and an attendance policy that ensures that the whole band is present for all rehearsals/events. If policies seem severe, understand this necessity given the nature of this activity and consider this perspective: The fact that the attendance policy is strict is because **EVERY MEMBER is so very important to what we do in every rehearsal and at every performance. Every member is a starter!**

Members learn new musical skills and marching concepts in rehearsal every day and are expected to have perfect daily and event attendance and participation. Failure to show up lets the whole band down and, in addition to preventing us from rehearsing at our best, can greatly affect the morale of all members and directors. In order to attain the goals all members set forth, it is imperative that the commitment of all members is to the team and to the performance. In keeping with these ideals, attendance at all scheduled rehearsals and events, **INCLUDING SUMMER AND FALL BREAK REHEARSALS**, are mandatory for all members.

DON'T LET YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS DOWN!

1. Every rehearsal is required; missed rehearsal time will need to be made up that same week. Failure to make up missed rehearsal time in the same week will result in the student being "sidelined" for the next performance and/or competition. This includes both "excused" and "unexcused" absences.
2. All absences must be reported to Mr. Zeiss at least 7 days prior to the absence.
3. Habitually poor attendance, regardless of reason, will result in removal from the marching band—no refund will be given on any payments made.
4. Supplemental guard and percussion rehearsals as well as Director Approved Sectionals are also sometimes required.
5. **SCHEDULING DOCTORS APPOINTMENTS OR OTHER ACTIVITIES AT THE SAME TIME AS A BAND REHEARSAL MUST BE AVOIDED IF AT ALL POSSIBLE.**

We have read and understand the Murray Tiger Band Attendance Policy.

Parent Signature

Student Signature

MURRAY INDEPENDENT VOLUNTEER BACKGROUND CHECK

This form is required for all adults wishing to help with the Murray Tiger Band. You only need to fill it out if you plan to help with the band in any way (chaperone, prop/pit crew, food crew, sewing, drivers, etc). If you are unsure, it is easier to go ahead and fill it out in case there is a chance you may wish to volunteer during the year.

<http://murray.kyschools.us/volunteer.asp>

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Band families have two options to pay fees:

1. Pay all at once on or before April 25th.
2. Follow the payment schedule*

Simply follow the payment schedule, fill it out, and place in an envelope. It can then be mailed or turned in directly to Mr. Zeiss in the band office. You may also use your debit/credit card through PayPal on our website at www.semper-melior.com.

*Should there ever be an issue that prevents the timely payment of a scheduled monthly coupon, please contact Mr. Zeiss directly and arrange an alternate payment schedule—**NEVER LET MONEY BE THE REASON A CHILD DOESN'T PARTICIPATE**. Fees will still have to be paid, but we will go to great lengths to accommodate hardship situations.

Marching Band Payment Schedule

April 25th - \$75

May 19th - \$75

June 26th - \$50

July 17th- Remaining balance (\$50)

Oct. 9th- Hotel fee due (\$50)

Total is \$250. Other incidental fees (shoes, gloves, etc) can be paid on or before Aug. 15th.

****Color guard uniforms will need to be ordered in June, so we ask that each guard member pay for their uniform by Monday, June 19th.***