

LHS Instrumental Music Department

Lion's Pride Marching Band

Director and Senior Band Staff:

- Brandi D. Jason Instrumental Music Director bdjason@carrollk12.org
(443)-605-5737 (cell)
- David Fisher Assistant Band Director dbfisher@erols.com
- Tom Vail Marching and Maneuvering tomvail74@hotmail.com
- Brian Foltz Battery Instructor foltz10r@gmail.com
- Jordan Brook Battery Instructor jbrook25@students.towson.edu
- Rachel Seibel Front Ensemble Instructor rmbaldwin822@gmail.com
- Mikayla Rodski Front Ensemble Instructor mikayla@rodski.net
- Katie Greco Color Guard Instructor greco.katie@gmail.com
- Christine Metzger Color Guard Instructor christinemetzger88@gmail.com
- Samantha Pickett Color Guard Instructor samanthapickett27@gmail.com
- Additional Jr. Staff, TBD

History:

Liberty has a longstanding tradition of excellence and is regarded as one of the finest competitive units in MD modeling marching style, technique and the latest music trends after leading drum corps units nationwide. Liberty has been an active member of Tournament of Bands (TOB) for over 30 years, winning 24 Chapter Championship flags with specialty awards for best music, marching, percussion, color guard and drum major and two first place Atlantic Coast Championship wins. The band is currently ranked 1st in the TOB Atlantic Coast Conference for Group III size bands and is the highest scoring Maryland band in the history of the organization with a score of 98.00. Moreover, Liberty is the only Maryland band to ever repeat the honor of Atlantic Coast Champion.

Group size/division is determined by the number of participating musicians (only) on the field, from Group I (less than 30 musicians) to Group IV (more than 70). The size of a band does not determine their greatness—small bands can pack a powerful punch and be more precise and rigorous than larger groups. It's all in the design and execution of the show as well as the dedication and collaboration of students, staff and parents. Nowadays, competitive marching shows are massive productions that contain powerful music selections of a diverse and varied repertoire with highly stylized visual components complete with theatrical-like costuming, props and sets.

TOB is known for the high level of rigor, demand and pursuit of excellence placed on students. Liberty chooses to participate in this circuit because the educational philosophies and adjudicated aspects closely mirror that of Ms. Jason, the staff, and overall mindset of the instrumental music program. Moreover this circuit most closely mirrors the performance rigor associated with DCI and DCA (professional drum corps organizations).

Summer Band Camp:

Summer Band Camp is a necessary and mandatory part of Marching Band. Three uninterrupted weeks are needed to “field” our show prior to the start of school. This time is valuable as students will learn the entire 7+ minute show with all music, routine, and drill memorized, with the ability to perform their work for the parent’s preview on Friday, August 27, 2021.

With the understanding that freshman families may not be familiar with our band camp policies, students unable to avoid absences due to vacation plans or prior commitments (within reason) will be allowed to participate at the discretion of the Director on an individual basis. Since this situation is not ideal for new learners it is requested that families make every effort to work vacation plans around band camp. Reasoning: Competitive marching band is a team sport that does not “bench” students or have understudies. All students have an active role in our show at all times with absenteeism affecting the entire group’s ability to move forward together.

Band Camp operates on a broken schedule to allow students relief from the heat with time for rest and relaxation between rehearsals. Please note the differences in the Color Guard schedule:

Week 1:	8/9-8/13	<u>Horn Line/Winds</u> M/W/F, 9-4 pm T/Thurs, 9-12 noon; 6-9 pm	<u>Front Ensemble & Color Guard</u> M-Thurs., 9-12 noon and 6-9 pm Friday, 9-4 pm	<u>Battery</u> Monday-Friday 9-4 pm
Week 2:	8/16-8/20	M/W/F, 9-4 pm T/Thurs, 9-12 noon; 6-9 pm	M-Thurs., 9-12 noon and 6-9 pm Friday, 9-4 pm	Monday- Friday 9-4 pm
Week 3:	8/23-8/27	M/W, 9-4 pm T/Thurs, 9-12 noon; 6-9 pm Friday, 9-9 pm*	M- Thurs., 9-12 noon and 6-9 pm Friday, 9-9 pm*	M- Thurs. 9-12 noon and 6-9 pm Friday 9-9 pm*

Parent’s Tailgate & Preview Show August 27st at 5 pm (students stay on campus) *

When preparing for band camp, remember to bring:

1. Instrument, music, 3-ring binder (music), page protectors, “dot book”, writing utensil, and other necessary materials.
2. Plenty of water, healthy snacks and a bagged lunch (MWF).
3. Sunblock, hat, sunglasses and light, reflective clothing.

4. Lace-up tennis shoes (only); no flip-flops.

Summer Band Camp Absences:

All Summer Band Camp absences must be reported and approved by Ms. Jason no later than Monday, June 22nd. It is requested that all necessary/unavoidable Summer Band Camp absences be included on the registration contract form when submitted.

Weekday Rehearsals (after Summer Band Camp/First Day of School Onwards):

1. Full band rehearsals (everyone) are Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6-9 pm.
2. Horn Line (winds) sectionals are Wednesdays from 2:30-5 pm.
3. Percussion sectionals are Wednesdays from 6-9 pm.
4. Color Guard sectionals are Mondays from 6-9 pm.
5. Rehearsals are “set” on the calendar and *rarely* change. We enjoy an established rehearsal schedule as to respect the time, schedules and outside commitments of our students, parents and staff.

Rehearsal Absence Policy:

- (5) Excused/Unexcused Absences (illness, emergency, prior family commitment, etc.)
 - A weekday absence *may* result in removal from a scheduled performance if new material is not learned to a satisfactory level, or if failure to execute new material causes a safety concern on the field.
 - Missed work with the responsibility of the student.
- (1) Excused Performance (*extremely rare* and a “last resort” for students with obligations)
 - All known absences are to be communicated to Ms. Jason (at least) two weeks in advance. Performance absences are to be reported by June 21, 2021.
 - Immediate absences resulting in illness, emergency, etc. are to be communicated by parent email or phone call to Ms. Jason (first) and any other supervising staff member prior to rehearsal.
 - Ms. Jason does not accept “text message” or “phone calls” to friends as prior notice of missing rehearsal. Absenteeism must be communicated by a parent or legal guardian.

Tardy Policy:

Simply put, students late to rehearsal will be expected to make-up lost time for the inconvenience put upon the team. Tardiness is not tolerated. To arrive on time is to be late, to arrive 15 minutes before rehearsal is to be on time.

Students must attend school on time to actively participate in any after school activity- CCPS policy. Students who are late to school are expected to report to rehearsal but are on “restricted” participation/observation. Since we do not “bench” students it is expected that students will maintain a 2.0 GPA (with no F’s), establish a good homework/academic schedule, be well rested, healthy and alert, and report to school on time as not to compromise the efficiency of the team.

Competitions:

Competitions are on Saturdays (or Sunday for Atlantic Coast Championships). We typically hold a morning rehearsal from 9-12 noon, break for lunch, resume rehearsal from 1-3 pm, and then begin to load equipment and buses for the competition. Competitions are in the evenings and can be local or within 2 hours drive. We typically leave LHS at 3:30 pm and return by midnight. Students find competitions to be the highlight of the marching band experience as they are extremely fun, a creative outlet, and build team spirit and morale. Bus rides are always a “hoot” and students find competition hosts to be very accommodating with food and souvenirs. We encourage family and friends to follow the buses or carpool. Parent support is needed for “pit crew”, uniforms, chaperones and other volunteer positions. When students join marching band we typically find that their parents and siblings do, too 😊

Transportation:

All bus transportation and equipment trucks are provided by Johnson’s Bus Service in Westminster, MD. We have a close relationship with our drivers as they’ve been with us for years. Students must ride the transportation provided- CCPS policy.

Equipment Rental:

The following students will need to rent equipment or instruments for \$75: Color Guard, all Percussion, Marching Brass, rented Woodwinds (flutes, clarinets, alto sax, tenor sax).

All students are expected to respect LHS owned equipment and treat it as their own. Students are directly responsible for any damage or unnecessary wear on the instrument/equipment while in their care.

Lion's Pride Marching Band

2021 Contract

Due Monday, June 21st to Ms. Jason

Please return this contract with \$150 registration/uniform fee made out to LHS IMB. (See MB Fees handout.)

If registration is done online this duplicate form/fee is not necessary.

I hereby agree to be an active participating member of the 2021 *Lions' Pride* Marching Band, and by doing so I agree to the rehearsal schedule (calendar), attendance policy, and procedures listed in the informational handout.

I understand that competitive Marching Band does not "bench" students. I realize that by signing this contract and joining this organization, a unique, individual spot will be created for me- a spot that can only be filled by me and no one else. As a result, I promise to follow this agreement through to fruition and be the best possible musician, marcher, participant and team player I can be.

Student Name

Student Signature

Parent Signature

In the area below, please list any known absences that could affect Summer Band Camp or our weekday rehearsal schedule once school resumes in September. Thank you!