

MARCHING BAND FAQ

What is Marching Band?

- Marching Band is an activity that combines music and movement to create performances that are both entertaining and educational. The Mighty Marching Chargers is recognized as one of the most popular and beloved student activities in the CHS community.

Who can participate in Marching Band?

- Any student signed up for a band class at CHS is eligible to participate. Students not enrolled in a band class have the opportunity to participate as a member of the Color Guard only.

Is Marching Band all year?

- No. Marching Band begins a few weeks before school starts with our summer camps. The season usually ends in early November, typically around the end of the 1st quarter.

When does Marching Band start?

- The first day of marching band is different for certain instruments/sections. Below are the tentative summer start dates for each group
 - ✓ Color Guard – Kick-Off Camp in June (end of current school year), Summer Camp – Sat, 7/26
 - ✓ Percussion – Kick-Off Camp in June (end of current school year), Summer Camp – Mon, 7/28
 - ✓ All other 9th graders/New Marchers – June 2-5 (new marcher training), Summer Camp – Mon, 7/28
 - ✓ All other Returning Marchers – Monday, July 28th
- Following your first day of summer camp, Marching Band camp continues Mon-Fri until August 15th.
- These camp dates serve as the backbone of our season and our students' success. It is important for families to coordinate summer travel and vacation plans outside of these dates. Please contact us directly with any questions about this.

Where does the Marching Band perform?

- We typically perform at all Varsity home football games, two away games, and 4-5 marching band competitions each season. Varsity football games usually occur on Friday nights and our competition performances begin in late September and occur on Saturdays.

Does Marching Band practice during the school day?

- No, once school begins the marching band practices after school 3 days a week. Below are the regular practice days for each section of the band. These are required practices:
 - ✓ Percussion and Color Guard – Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
 - ✓ Woodwinds and Brass – Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

What are the benefits of doing marching band? (Student testimonials!)

- "Starting High School with marching band helped me feel more comfortable beginning the school year. Joining this group helped me feel like part of the CHS community before the 1st day of school and I was more comfortable finding my classes in a new school."
 - Teresa Nicholson, 12th grade (attended Rocky Run MS)
- "Getting a GPA boost AND making a lot of new friends through a new experience ended up being more fun than we expected, and marching band is a great activity to include on your college applications!"
 - Badia Belkacem and Vaghula Madhusudhanan, 9th grade (attended Franklin MS)
- "As someone who didn't join band until high school, marching band not only helped me improve my music/performance skills, but I was able to form great friendships. These connections not only made marching band enjoyable, but helped make school more fun."
 - Sam Cha, 12th grade (joined band during High School)

How do I join marching band?

- Sign up for **ADVANCED BAND (WITH Marching Band)** when picking classes for next school year. This will tell us that you plan to do marching band.
 - If interested in Color Guard, participate in tryouts (May 2025) to be considered for the team.

Chantilly High School Mighty Marching Chargers - 2025-2026 Calendar

Attendance at all rehearsals/performances is part of your responsibility as a member of the Mighty Marching Chargers.

Spring & Summer 2025

Charger Guard

Color Guard Tryouts.....	Tues, 5/27-Fri, 5/30 - 5:30-8pm
Color Guard Spring Practice.....	Tues, 6/3 - 5-8pm
Summer "Kick-Off" Camp.....	Wed, 6/11 - 5pm-9pm Thurs, 6/12 - 5pm-9pm Fri, 6/13 - 5pm-9pm Sat, 6/14 - 10am-5pm
Summer Guard Practices - Full Team.....	Tuesdays, 6/17, 6/24, 7/1, 7/8, 7/15, 7/22 - 5-8pm
Summer Guard Practices - Weapon Training Only.....	Thursdays, 6/19, 6/26, 7/3, 7/10, 7/17, 7/24 - 5-8pm
Pre-Season/Choreo Camp.....	Fri, 7/26-Sat, 7/27 - 10am-5pm

Percussion (Drumline and Front Ensemble)

Spring Percussion Clinics.....	Tues,5/6 & Thursdays 5/15, 22, 29, & 6/5, - 6pm-9pm
Summer "Kick-Off" Camp.....	Wed, 6/11-Fri, 6/13 - 5pm-9pm
Summer Percussion Practices.....	Tuesdays - 6/18, 6/25, 7/9, 7/16, 7/23 - 5-9pm

New Marchers (Woodwinds and Brass)

New Marcher Training.....	Tues, 6/3-Thurs,6/5 - 6pm-8pm
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Leadership

Leadership Workshop.....	Mon, 6/2, 3-5pm
Workshop/New Marcher Training.....	Tues, 6/3-Thurs, 6/5 - 4:30-8pm

Marching Band Camp (ALL MEMBERS)

Leadership Work Day.....	Fri, 7/26 - 9am-4pm
MMC 2-a-days, Week 1.....	Mon, 7/28-Fri, 8/1 7am-12pm & 5pm-8pm
Drum Corps Show Viewing Party.....	Fri, 8/1 After evening practice in the Auditorium
MMC 2-a-days, Week 2.....	Mon, 8/4-Fri, 8/8 7am-12pm & 5pm-8pm
End of Camp Party.....	Fri, 8/8 - 8pm-11pm
Evening Practices.....	Mon, 8/11-Fri, 8/15 - 5pm-8pm
Team/Individual Pictures (during evening rehearsal).....	Week of 8/11-8/15, exact date TBD
9th Grade Orientation Performance.....	Thurs, 8/14 - 7am-9am

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Fall Schedule (once school starts...) - All members unless otherwise noted

Begin After School Practice Schedule.....	Mon, 8/18-Thur, 11/6
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mondays - CHARGER GUARD - 5pm-8pm• Mondays - PERCUSSION - 6pm-9pm• Tuesdays - WOODWINDS & BRASS - 4pm-6:30pm• Wednesdays – ALL MEMBERS - 6pm-9pm• Thursdays - ALL MEMBERS - 4pm-6:30pm	
Guard Mini-Camp (Charger Guard Only).....	Sat, 8/23 12pm-6pm
Away Football @ West Springfield.....	Fri, 9/5
Guard Mini-Camp (Charger Guard Only).....	Sat, 9/6 12pm-6pm
Home Football vs Fairfax.....	Fri, 9/19
Tag Day.....	Sat, 9/20
MMC Competition..... <i>Herndon</i>	Sat, 9/27
Home Football vs Herndon (MS Night).....	Fri, 10/3
MMC Competition..... <i>Rock Ridge</i>	Sat, 10/4
Home Football vs Centreville (Homecoming).....	Fri, 10/10
MMC Competition..... <i>Oakton</i>	Sat, 10/18
Home Football vs Oakton.....	Fri, 10/24
MMC Competition..... <i>VBODA Patriot or USBands MD-VA Showcase (Stevenson U)</i>	Sat, 10/25
MMC Competition..... <i>USBands MD-VA Championships</i>	Sat, 11/1-Sun, 11/2
Home Football vs Madison (Senior Night).....	Fri, 11/7
End of Season Banquet.....	Mon, 11/24

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US!

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