



Marlborough Public Schools Music Association

P.O. Box 200, Marlborough, MA 01752 www.mpsmusic.org

July 2026

Dear High School Marching Band & Color Guard Students & Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to the MHS Music Department. We hope you're having a wonderful summer break. Please take a few minutes to review this important information regarding band camp, marching band shoe orders (response needed by July 30th) & link to schedule performance attire fittings if you have not done so yet.

WHAT IS BAND CAMP?

Band Camp is when MHS Wind Ensemble, Concert Band, Color Guard & 8th Grade volunteer students come together to learn the music & the half time show performed at home HS football games. Band Camp is required and an important week to learn the entire half time show. It is a great time to meet other marching band students and learn about MHS from upper classmen.

BAND CAMP INFORMATION

- WHERE:** Whitcomb MS Auditorium Entrance, Drop Off & Check-In in the Lobby.
At Check-in students will receive their music, a drawstring bag & water bottle that can be filled with water from dispensers at the Middle School.
- WHEN:** Monday through Friday, August 17-21, 2026, from 9:00 am until 3:30 pm daily.
- BRING DAILY:** Students should bring a bag lunch Monday to Thursday & bring sunscreen along with their water bottle and the drawstring bag.
- GENERAL INFO:** Students will be both inside learning music & outside learning the field show. They should wear appropriate length shorts, t-shirts & sneakers for walking & playing their instruments inside & out. Also bring a long sleeved shirt in the event the A/C is on inside.
- FRIDAY'S LUNCH:** On Friday afternoon, the MPS Music Association provides lunch that may be at a student's home or at Whitcomb Middle School to thank all the students, teachers & assistants for their hard work during the week.

ADULT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FRIDAY'S LUNCH:

We need a few adult volunteers who are available to help with the set up (starting at 11:00 am), serving & cleanup when all have finished their lunch. The location will be announced during band camp. If interested in helping, please e-mail Marlene Manell at mrmanell@gmail.com. Thank you!

MARCHING BAND & COLOR GUARD SHOES

Part of the uniform is a special Drillmaster marching shoe. These shoes cost \$45.00 [SP1] and will be bulk ordered in advance to keep the shipping cost down. The shoes will be fitted at the student's fitting appointment which will give us time to reorder if we need to exchange sizes. The reason we need to get the students fitted quickly is their first performance is the Labor Day Parade on Sept. 7th.

TO ORDER SHOES – TWO WAYS TO ORDER:

Check:

Please fill out the enclosed card & mail it with a check in the amount of \$45.00 made out to the "MPS Music Association" to be received before July 30th. Please mail to: MPS Music Association, c/o Marlene Manell, 239 Wilson Street, Marlborough, MA 01752.

– OR –

PayPal (includes PayPal, Venmo, Credit or Debit Card):

Go to our website, mpsmusic.org, click on the Donate Tab, click on the PayPal Button. Please add your student's name & shoe size in the comments/notes section.

PLEASE DO NOT WAIT – THE GROUP ORDER WILL BE PLACED BEFORE AUGUST 3RD.

If you feel purchasing the marching shoes will be a financial hardship, please let Mr. Verdone, jverdone@mps-edu.org, or Mrs. Manell, mrmanell@gmail.com know as soon as possible.

Women's Sizes Available	Men's Sizes Available
4 to 12 ½ medium width only (whole and half sizes) 13 to 20 medium or wide (whole sizes only)	2-10 ½ medium width only (whole and half sizes) 11-20 medium or wide (whole sizes only)

Note: When sizing these marching band shoes, please use students' dress shoe size, not sneaker size.

FITTINGS - WHEN: August 24th & 25th from 8:20 am to 1:40 pm & August 26th from 8:20 am to **10:40 [SP2]am** in the MHS Chorus Room. The appointment will take approximately 30+/- minutes.

For questions/problems, please contact Mrs. Manell at mrmanell@gmail.com or text 508-735-8386.

FITTINGS - HOW: All HS & MS students in Marching Band, Color Guard, and all HS students in Concert Band, Wind Ensemble & Orchestra, Jazz Ensemble, & A cappella Choir are required to immediately sign up for a fitting appointment through this link or QR code. If you have already signed up, Thank You!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084CA4AD2FA2FC1-63313713-aug2026#/>

The link is also posted on our website mpsmusic.org - The QR Code at the bottom of this letter)

Click on Students Tab; Choose Marching Band on the drop down.

NOTE: Students will be fitted for all the performing groups they are in at their appointment. It is important to make & keep the appointment as this is the only time our volunteer sewers will be on site to fit them.

DRESS FITTINGS: BRING TO YOUR APPOINTMENT THE SHOES YOU WILL WEAR ON STAGE.

(Includes Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, String Ensemble & A cappella)

Your all black shoe heels must be **2" high or less**. Flats are preferred. The dresses will be hemmed according to the heel height of shoes you will be wearing on stage. Bring those same shoes to your fitting appointment. Please refer to the Required Performance Attire Sheet enclosed for more information.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE FITTINGS:

JAZZ STUDENTS NEED TO PROVIDE THEIR OWN ALL BLACK DRESS PANTS (no shiny or metal embellishments). NOTE: Form Fitting, Tight Pants, Stretch Pants, Leggings, etc. are **NOT** Acceptable.

BRING YOUR BLACK DRESS PANTS TO YOUR APPOINTMENT. We will supply the 6 buttons (for the suspenders) & will mark the locations on your pants where the buttons need to be sewn.

ADULT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need a few adult volunteers who can sew on a sewing machine and are willing to help alter the uniforms, tuxes, and dresses. It's mainly straight sewing taking hems up & down of pants, sleeves and dresses. You do not have to physically fit each student. We would like your help during the days of Aug, 24th to 26th 9:00 am to 2:00 pm (or any part of those days). If interested in helping, please e-mail Marlene Manell at mrmanell@gmail.com.

FOOTBALL GAMES

There is no assigned seating at the football games. To those of you who would like to sit in the stands with other music parents, many of the parents usually sit in between the "tunnel" (where the football players come out to the field) & the band. Ticket sale dates are usually posted on the MHS Athletic website. For further information, please contact the MHS Athletic Dept.

MPS MUSIC ASSOCIATION INFORMATION & WEB SITE

Volunteers are the backbone of our organization! There are numerous volunteer opportunities. Please be generous with your time when our volunteer coordinator contacts you to help. Or fill out the volunteer form on our web page. To find out more about volunteering, please see the volunteer section of our webpage at www.mpsmusic.org. Besides needing volunteers for jobs that take a few hours, we also need people to be on the MPS Music Association Board – All positions are needed. Meetings take place once a month via Zoom. Meeting Dates are listed on our Website. Please join us for a meeting to see what we do, what we need and if it's something you would like to do. Thank you to all past, present & future volunteers!

RECAP - DATES TO REMEMBER:

- ♪ **Band Shoe Orders Due before – July 30, 2026**
- ♪ **Make appointment for Fitting your Marching Band Uniform & Concert Performance Attire by July 30th**
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084CA4AD2FA2FC1-63313713-aug2026#/>
- ♪ **Band Camp – August 17- 21, 2026– 9 am to 3:30 pm, Whitcomb Middle School, Auditorium Entrance**
- ♪ **Uniform & Performance Attire Fittings – August 24-26, 2026– Marlborough High School-Chorus Room**
- ♪ **Labor Day Parade – Monday, Sept 7, 2026 – HS Marching Band - required performance**

See the 2026/27 Marching Band Schedule for Dates & Times for all performances and after school rehearsals. The document is posted on our website mpsmusic.org, Students Tab; Choose Marching Band on the drop down.

Have a wonderful summer. If you have any questions, please e-mail, call or text me. Thank you;

Sincerely,

Marlene Manell

President, MPS Music Association

mrmanell@gmail.com, Talk/Text 508-735-8386

**QR Code to
Make Your
Fitting
Appointment**

