



## Welcome to the 2022-2023 Battlefield High School Marching Bobcats!

We are excited about the coming season! To keep you best informed about important details for the upcoming marching season, we are providing this important informational packet for your review. We will follow-up with reminder emails when deadlines approach or if information changes. This Welcome Packet will be available on our website and in CHARMS should you need to reference it later this marching season. Please review this packet and send any questions you may have to [marchingbobcatscommunications@gmail.com](mailto:marchingbobcatscommunications@gmail.com)

### To Do List:

1. Register for the 2022-23 Marching Bobcats online and pay band fees
  - a. <https://www.battlefieldbands.com/join-the-band!.html>
  - b. Parent/Student Contracts
  - c. Uniform Ordering
2. Register for CHARMS account
  - a. [www.charmsoffice.com](http://www.charmsoffice.com)
  - b. Click "Login" in upper right corner; locate the "Parents/Students/Members" tab; use school code **battlefieldband**

### Band Director

Mr. Michael Britcher



[britchma@pwcs.edu](mailto:britchma@pwcs.edu)

### Social Media



@battlefieldhsbands



@BattlefieldMB



@battlefieldband



## Band Support Organization (BSO)



[www.battlefieldbands.com](http://www.battlefieldbands.com)



[marchingbobcatscommunications@gmail.com](mailto:marchingbobcatscommunications@gmail.com)

The BSO maintains a public Facebook page and an active, private Facebook group. You must request access to the group. This protects our students because we post updates on travel plans and other important information.

The BSO meets the second Monday of each month at 7:30 pm in the band room. Please join us for information updates and discussion as the season marches forward!



# BATTLEFIELD BANDS

## REGISTRATION & EXPENSES

**If not yet completed, please register online:**

<https://www.battlefieldbands.com/join-the-band!.html>

### **Dues (Marchers & Color Guard)**

2022-2023 Dues: \$400 (\$320 for each additional sibling)

Minimum Deposit of \$100 (non-refundable) at time of registration

Final Payment due by August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

### **Forms of Payment**

- PayPal
- Credit/Debit Cards
- Check – Checks should be made out to BSO. Please note the student's name on check. Payment can be mailed to: PO Box 267, Haymarket, VA 20168



If you have questions or problems with the payment schedule, please contact the BSO Treasurer at [treasurer@battlefieldbands.com](mailto:treasurer@battlefieldbands.com) as soon as possible to discuss an individualized payment plan.

### **Other Expenses**

These anticipated expenses are for family budget planning purposes only. Payment instructions will be sent later.

- *All marchers must purchase a **wind suit jacket**.* Returning marchers may wear the previous wind suit if it still fits and is in good condition. Wind suit jacket cost is approximately \$37.
- Wind suit pants are changing to Adidas tricot athletic pants. All marchers must purchase. Cost is \$20.
- Home football game meals: \$6-\$9 per game if preordered. Students may also bring their own meal.
- **Concert band members** will also be required to pay a \$30 Concert Band Fee and purchase concert attire. Students will receive more information in band class.
- Each family is asked to provide at least **48 count small (8 oz)** disposable **water bottles** to be used by the marchers at games and competitions.

#### **Wind players and percussion only:**

- Marching shoes - \$35
- Gloves - \$5
- Long black athletic socks - \$5  
(may be purchased on your own)

#### **Color Guard only:**

- Guard shoes - \$35
- Guard gloves - \$15
- Rifle (optional) - \$50
- Show makeup - \$10

## CAMPS, PRACTICES, GAMES, & COMPETITIONS

### **Attendance Policy**

Marching Band is a graded class and attendance is taken at every practice and event. Non-emergency absences must be arranged in advance with approval from the director (at least two weeks' notice preferred). If a student must be absent, email [bobcatmbattendance@gmail.com](mailto:bobcatmbattendance@gmail.com) and include the student's name and the reason for the absence. **Emails must come from the parent—no student emails will be accepted.**

## Band Camp

- August 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> (*all day 9am-5pm*)

## Evening Practices before school starts and Parent Preview

- August 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> (*evenings 6pm-8:30pm*)
- August 18<sup>th</sup> – families are invited for a potluck and Meet-and-Greet during practice. At the end of practice, we will proceed to the stadium for a preview of the show.



## After School Practices

Regular practices begin the first week of school and end in early November.

- Weekly\_Schedule
  - Monday – Off
  - Tuesday – 6pm-8:30pm
  - Wednesday – 2:30pm-5pm (sectionals)
  - Thursday – 6pm-8:30pm
  - Friday – Football Game Day (see Home Game Schedule. Practice may be held at the Director's discretion if there is an away game.)

## 2022 Regular Season Football Schedule

August 26	<b>Battlefield</b> vs. Potomac Senior
September 30	<b>Battlefield</b> vs. Freedom ( <i>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Night</i> )
October 7	<b>Battlefield</b> vs. John Champe ( <i>Homecoming</i> )
October 28	<b>Battlefield</b> vs. Gar-Field ( <i>Pink Out</i> )
November 4	<b>Battlefield</b> vs. Patriot ( <i>Senior Night</i> )

## 2022 Competition Schedule

September 10	Tag Day*
September 17	Woodbridge Viking Invitational ( <i>Woodbridge</i> )
September 24	Colgan Classic ( <i>Woodbridge</i> )
October 8	TBD
October 15	Haymarket Day Parade ( <i>Haymarket</i> )
October 15	VBMC Dominion ( <i>Sterling</i> )
October 22	VBODA Rock Ridge ( <i>Ashburn</i> )
October 29	Parade of Champions ( <i>JMU</i> )
December 3	Manassas Christmas Parade ( <i>Manassas</i> )

Picture Day – TBD, likely November 15<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup>

Home Games – Students will remain after school for rehearsal, followed by a break and dinner. Around 5:45pm, students will change into their uniforms and prepare for pregame activities. If you would like to see the band perform pregame, plan to arrive by 6:30pm to find a seat in the stadium.

Away Games (typically only for playoff or the Patriot game) – If the Marching Band will perform at an away football game, students will leave at dismissal and go home. They will need to eat dinner before returning around 5:00 pm to change into uniforms and travel to the game. Students return to Battlefield at the conclusion of the game, usually around 10:00pm.

## Competitions

**Competitions are a community experience for the Marching Bobcats and families.** Getting the full band and all their instruments, uniforms, props, and equipment to an event takes many willing hands. The BSO will send out an itinerary before each weekend competition, along with sign-up information for chaperones and other volunteers. Students typically report in the morning for rehearsal and then eat lunch at school before traveling to the competition site. Once we arrive, volunteers help unload and prep equipment while the musicians and guard change into uniforms and warm up. After the band performs and all the uniforms, equipment, and instruments are packed away, students then get to



relax and watch other bands perform. Band members are expected to remain at the venue through the presentation of awards and will travel back to Battlefield on buses and help unload equipment before being dismissed. Parents will be informed of estimated return times. The more volunteers we have, the sooner we all go home. 😊

Family members who wish to attend the performance may travel to the competition site on their own. Admission is typically \$10-15 per person. Plan to arrive at least 45-60 minutes before the scheduled performance time as the schedules are sometimes subject to change. Marchers will not have access to cell phones once in uniform and all marchers are expected to return on the bus with the group unless arrangements are made in advance with the approval of the director.

The BSO will provide lunch for students and chaperones at all competitions. Students may wish to bring snacks or money to purchase concessions for dinner as competitions can run into the late evening.

### Mini-Camp (End-of-year)

- Mini-Camp is held near the end of the school year and will preview the upcoming band season show. This is a great opportunity for rising 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders, existing marchers, and any other student interested in Marching Band to meet new people and get a taste of what's to come.
  - Tuesday/Thursday Evenings 6:00-8:30pm, Dates TBD (likely in June)

## BAND CAMP

### August 1<sup>st</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, Weekdays 9am - 5pm

### WEAR:

- Light colored shirt, shorts, athletic socks
- Athletic shoes with good support
- Hat/Bandana/Sunglasses and **SUNSCREEN!!**

### BRING:

- Instrument and case
- Backpack
- Lunch and refillable water bottle
- Extra snacks for short breaks
- Sunscreen, towel
- Phone



### THE LOWDOWN



1. Prepare for **heat**. Marchers should slather on sunscreen, wear a hat and sunglasses, and drink plenty of water. A water bottle filling station is available inside.
2. Wear sturdy **shoes** that are already broken in. **Cushioned socks** are recommended!
3. Marchers need to eat a **healthy breakfast** and **pack a nutritious lunch**. Students burn a lot of calories at Band Camp and need fuel to make it through the long days. Lunch is also a good time to socialize and get to know their bandmates.

4. Marchers are encouraged to dress for **“Spirit Days”** during Band Camp and at other times during the season. Section Leaders will give more details. Each section has “color days” to show their section superiority by going all in in their section color. Dollar stores and thrift shops often have bandanas, hats, and beads to help you make your section proud!



**Drumline – White**

**Pit – Black**

**Flutes – Pink**

**Mellos – Yellow**

**Clarinets – Blue**

**Trumpets – Orange**

**Baritones/Tubas – Green**

**Saxes – Red**

**Guard – Purple**



5. **Rest.** Put down the phone and turn in early during Band Camp weeks. Trust us on this one!



6. **Exercise now!** Marchers will enjoy Band Camp much more by being in shape BEFORE camp starts. Get outside and move this summer.



7. **Time Management.** Rehearsal starts at the posted time. Arrive early to find a place for your things, assemble your instrument, put on extra sunscreen, and use the bathroom.

**MUSIC TIME = EARLY IS ON TIME, ON TIME IS LATE!**



8. **Remember** – Camp is work time, but it is also FUN! Get to know your fellow Marching Bobcats and enjoy the time you have together. Parents are also encouraged to join us at the end of practice day at the fence by the drill lot (AKA driver’s ed lot) to meet other families and take a peek at the progress our marchers are making. And don’t forget to join us for the Parent Meet-and-Greet and Parent Preview on Thursday, August 18<sup>th</sup>!

## UNIFORMS



Uniform fittings will take place on **Wednesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>** (during first week of band camp). **All wind players and percussion need to bring:**

- Marching shoes (if you have them)
- Long (preferably black) athletic socks (to ensure proper fit for new marching shoes)

Each marcher will be assigned a uniform (which will be kept at school) and will be responsible for taking care of it during performances and returning it as directed for cleaning after use.

## PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS

At all performances, all Marching Bobcats are official representatives of themselves, our organization, our school, and our community and should demonstrate high standards of appearance and behavior at all times.

Specifically:

- Band members must wear the official black show t-shirt, black pants, leggings, or shorts, and long black socks under the uniform. Later in the season, students may wish to add thermal layers, which should also be black.
- Hair of sufficient length must be pulled up and tucked under the shako (hat).
- No hair dye or makeup that may come in contact with the uniform collar or hat to avoid staining.
- Only neutral color nail polish may be worn.
- NO JEWELRY of any kind, including watches.
- Guard members will wear the official show uniform, or an alternate uniform as determined for certain events.
- NO EATING OR DRINKING (except water) while in uniform.

At all-day events, marchers will be able to change out of their uniform after performing and must then wear their wind suit. Wind suits may also be worn for performances in inclement weather.

Marchers are responsible for wearing the appropriate attire and bringing the correct shoes, socks, and gloves to every performance. If an item is forgotten, replacement socks and gloves must be purchased, and shoes must be rented (not all sizes available!). If these items are lost, damaged, or outgrown, the marcher must purchase replacements. Marchers must also take care of their uniforms and any damage resulting from failing to follow these policies may result in the marcher being charged to repair the damage. Each uniform is valued at approximately \$450.

For more details about uniform care and policies, see our website at <https://battlefieldbands.com> (click the RESOURCES tab).

**Please help us keep our Band looking amazing!**

## **BAND SUPPORT ORGANIZATION (BSO)**

The BSO is the family-run support network for the Marching Bobcats. It takes a village to get through a successful band season, and the sense of community and accomplishment in being a part of your students' experience is both fun and rewarding. For more information or to find out how you can be a part of the action, check out our website at <https://battlefieldbands.com> or join us for our meetings on the second Monday of each month at 7:30 pm in the band room.

***We hope you enjoy the experience!***

