

## **Band Camp Hints**

**All GM Bands run on *M-time*.** Plan to arrive for either Mini or main Band Camp 15 to 30 minutes early. All band members are expected to be in position with their instruments and ready to play and/or march at precisely the scheduled time. Allow yourself plenty of personal preparation time to visit with friends, hit the concession stand, etc., and still be in position on time. There are very few things more embarrassing -- or more noticeable -- than running on to the field late.

**Be prepared for any type of weather.** Bring a sweatshirt or jacket for cool days and early mornings. Bring sunscreen, sunglasses, a hat or visor **and plenty of water for hot days.** Bring a change of clothes for rainy days. Remember, football halftime shows and band competitions will be held in all kinds of weather and field conditions – heat, rain, mud, high wind and snow! Practices are meant to prepare you for all these possibilities.

**Always wear shoes that are comfortable and suitable for marching.** Forget fashion! Flat soled, supportive shoes are the way to go. No flip flops or shoes that could come off during a marching drill.

**Band Camp is a school function.** School District dress code requirements will still apply. Some points of the code may soften and bend in the August heat, but be reasonable. Please dress appropriately. Light weight, loose clothing is the most comfortable.

**Attendance and participation at all band camp days is required.** Please submit a note to the staff if you miss a day due to illness. Notify the staff in advance of appointments.

### **Quick summary:**

Be on time

Hydrate! Best thing for that is water

Dress appropriately for the weather and venue

Take care of your feet

## Required Apparel

**Students are required to purchase one short sleeved Band T-shirt.** Extra T-shirts and long sleeved shirts may be ordered as well. The cost of the shirts, and a due date for T-shirt orders, will be announced at Mini Camp.

All students are required to wear black (dark) shorts under their uniform. These shorts must be smooth to avoid damage to the uniforms. No cut-off jeans or shorts with buckles, rivets or protruding metal snaps are to be worn under the uniform pants. Bicycle shorts, silky gym shorts or, later in the season, leggings or long underwear are suggested.

T-shirts and shorts under the uniform help reduce the number of times the uniform needs to be dry cleaned. Also, the students often change clothes on the buses and the shorts make for a more G-rated band.

Don't forget your black socks! Avoid showing skin; judges take off points for bare ankles or wrists. Please wear socks that are crew length or longer.

Get your shorts before Main Band Camp. They are required for uniform fittings. Socks, too, if you need to be fitted for shoes.