

The Bands of Union Grove
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www.ughsband.org



Established 2000

Dear UGHS Marching Wolverines member and parents:

It is hard to believe that school has already been out for 2 weeks. Students I hope you are enjoying your time away from school as you vacation, relax and in some cases work during the summer break. This letter is being sent as a reminder of our summer/fall marching band schedule; it also includes the basic expectations for the season and year. Please pay careful attention to the information listed in the remainder of this letter because it may be slightly different than previously distributed information and/or different from previous years. Please check the website (www.ughsband.org) regularly for the most up to date schedule/calendar and UGHS Band information. I am excited to announce that the website will be getting a new look in the weeks to come. We will also begin using Twitter and Instagram later this summer as a way to communicate with our band members and parents. I will be checking e-mail almost daily throughout the summer, but should you need to contact me via telephone, the band room phone number is 678-583-8502 (main school phone number-Extension 137 to leave a message if you call after hours). I will check phone messages 2-3 times per week, so e-mail is the best way to contact me until summer rehearsals begin. I am really excited about the upcoming season and hope that you are too.

Our show this year is entitled Where the Wild Things Are. This is going to be a fun show for the band and an enjoyable presentation for the audience. I will be sending out music to the woodwind and brass players in about a week. In addition to working on the show music when it arrives, all woodwind and brass players should make sure they are familiar with and working towards the memorization of page 4 and pages 6-8 from the Foundations for Superior Performance book (the blue book). Returning UGHS Band students should have a copy of this book. Rising 9th grade students may have used this book at some point in middle school. If not, this book can be purchased inexpensively (around \$7.00-8.00) at one of our local music stores or on-line. Percussionists do not need this book. On page 4 learn exercises 1A/1B/1C/1D and on pages 6-8 woodwinds need to learn the top and bottom of the page and brass players just learn the option at the top of the page for now. Make sure to pay careful attention to chromatic fingerings in the woodwinds and proper slide and valve combinations in the brass. We will use this book in band class throughout the year as well as with the marching band.

Additional Reminders and Information:

Physicals: All students participating in marching band at a Henry County school must have a physical in order to participate. Colorguard members and percussionists must have a physical form on file in the UGHS Band office by Monday, July 11th, and all other marching band members must have a completed physical form on file by Thursday, July 14th. I advise parents to keep a copy of the completed physical form for their records. Physical forms can be downloaded from the Athletics section of the school's website (Athletics→Athletic Forms...). There are several other forms on this page, and it would be a good idea for parents to read through the additional information even though only the physical form has to be printed and submitted. Physicals are considered valid by the school system for one calendar year. Any student who had a physical to participate in a school sport this past winter or spring may use a copy of that form; however, I need a copy for the band files. We operate separately from the athletic department in this regard. You may visit your primary care physician for a physical, or there are several clinics and locations that offer lower cost sports physicals.

After School Practice Schedule

Once school starts, the marching band will rehearse Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:45 p.m.-6 p.m. After our competition performances, the after school time commitments are greatly reduced. Late in the season the marching band usually practices once per week.

Marching Band Performances

During the upcoming season, the marching band will perform at all home and in-county away varsity football games. At this time, a final decision has not been made regarding travel outside of the county for away football games, but please plan as if we will be attending ALL varsity football games in and outside of the county. In addition to these performances, we will also participate in the following events: Varsity football scrimmage game in August; UGHS homecoming parade; the Henry County Marching Band Exhibition; compete in two marching festivals/competitions during the month of October and possibly the McDonough Christmas parade. All performances are mandatory for members of the marching band. Additional performance information will be made available as soon as possible. Also, please keep in mind should our football team make the playoffs the band will be expected to attend.

Marching Band Fees

The cost of marching band for each member will be \$375.00 again this year (colorguard members will also pay an additional uniform fee of \$125.00). This includes the deposit in May. The rest of the payments for marching band fees can be spread throughout the month of June with any remaining balance due by the July 12th Band Camp Meeting. June payments can be mailed to the school or dropped off in the school's front office. These fees help pay some of the cost for things such as music, drill, camp staff, colorguard & percussion staff, uniform cleaning, colorguard equipment, lunch during band camp, band T-shirt, contest entry fees and transportation among other expenses. New instrumental band members will have a few additional start up costs not included in the band fees: band shoes; gloves; music lyre. If there are special circumstances concerning payment of fees, please contact Mr. Kramer immediately. I never want a child to not have an opportunity to participate because of financial reasons.

Instrument Fees

As in the past, students who use school owned instruments will pay a \$75.00 maintenance fee. This includes all percussionists, bass clarinets, tenor saxophones, marching french horns, marching baritones, and sousaphones. Students using multiple instruments (ex. mellophone for marching band & horn for concert band) will only pay 1 fee.

Instrument Repairs

Summer break provides the opportunity to have regular maintenance and repairs performed on students' instruments. Should your child's instrument need repair or maintenance, please do this now and do not wait. The summer is a busy time for repairmen, and the return time for repaired instruments can easily run as long as 2-3 weeks or longer depending on the nature of the repair.

Important UGHS Band Dates

(As of June 1, 2016-Some dates may be subject to change)

June 2016

6	Monday	Colorguard 3:30-6:00 p.m. practice
13	Monday	Colorguard 3:30-6:00 p.m. practice
20	Monday	Colorguard 3:30-6:00 p.m. practice
27	Monday	Colorguard 3:30-6:00 p.m. practice

July 2016

11-15	Monday-Friday	9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. <u>Percussion and Colorguard Camp</u> (Students need to bring lunch. Students will not be allowed to leave campus during camp hours.)
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July -cont-

- 12 Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Band Camp Meeting
At least 1 parent of each participating student should be in attendance at the meeting (students do not have to attend). The remaining balance of marching band fees are due and camp/season information and expectations will be covered. Paperwork pertinent to the season will be distributed: medical/travel form; volunteer form; spirit wear form etc.
- 14 Thursday 9:00a.m.-12:00p.m. New Marchers and Student Leaders
6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. All Marching Band Members
(this includes new marchers and student officers but not colorguard and percussion)
- 15 Friday 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. All Marching Band Members (bring lunch)
(including colorguard and percussion)
- 18-22 Band Camp Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. and
Friday 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
All Marching Band Members
(lunch will be provided 12:00-1:00 p.m. and students should make arrangements for the supper break 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Students are required to remain on campus from 8:00 a.m. until the 4:00 p.m. dinner break each day and then return after dinner.)
- 28 Thursday 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. All Marching Band Members

August 2016

- 1 Monday First day of school!!!
- 2 Tuesday Regular Practice Schedule begins
- 6 ***Saturday Picture day/mini camp/preview show (scrimmage game?)
(Times T.B.A.-Please plan as if this will be and all day event.)
We will take group pictures for the football program and yearbook, senior band pictures and work to finish learning the halftime/competition show. The exact schedule for the day has not been set. This is also the date of the first scrimmage game, so we may participate in this event in addition to our regular activities on this day. More information and exact schedule T.B.A.

September 2016

October 2016

- 3 Monday Henry County Schools Marching Band Exhibition:
Woodland High School
- T.B.A. Saturday T.B.A. Competition Date-(Will be included in my next letter in early July)
Report approximately 9:00 a.m. Return 12:00 a.m.
- 29 Saturday Competition: Heart of Georgia Marching Band Invitational
at Warner Robins High School
Report approximately 9:00 a.m. Return 12:00 a.m.

November 2016

December 2016

- T.B.A. Saturday McDonough Christmas Parade

UGHS Varsity Football Schedule - Fall 2016

Date	Opponent	Location	Kickoff
8/6/16	Dunwoody (scrimmage)	Home	6:00 p.m.
8/19/16	Woodland*	Home	7:30 p.m.
8/26/16	Whitewater	WHS	7:30 p.m.
9/2/16	Apalachee	Home	7:30 p.m.
9/9/16	Eagles Landing*	Home	7:30 p.m.
9/16/16	Locust Grove*	LGHS	7:30 p.m.
9/23/16		OFF	
9/30/16		OFF	
10/7/16	Hampton*	HHS	7:30 p.m.
10/14/16	Jones County*	Home	7:30 p.m.
10/21/16	Dutchtown*	DHS	7:30 p.m.
10/28/16	Ola*	OHS	7:30 p.m.
11/4/16	Stockbridge*	Home	7:30 p.m.

*denotes region game

Please check the website (www.ughsband.org) regularly for the most up to date schedule/calendar and UGHS Band information. If you have any questions, please e-mail or call the band room. My e-mail and phone number are listed at the beginning of this letter.

I hope you all enjoy the rest of your summer, and I look forward to seeing you all at band camp 2016.

Sincerely,



Stan Kramer, Director
Union Grove High School Band