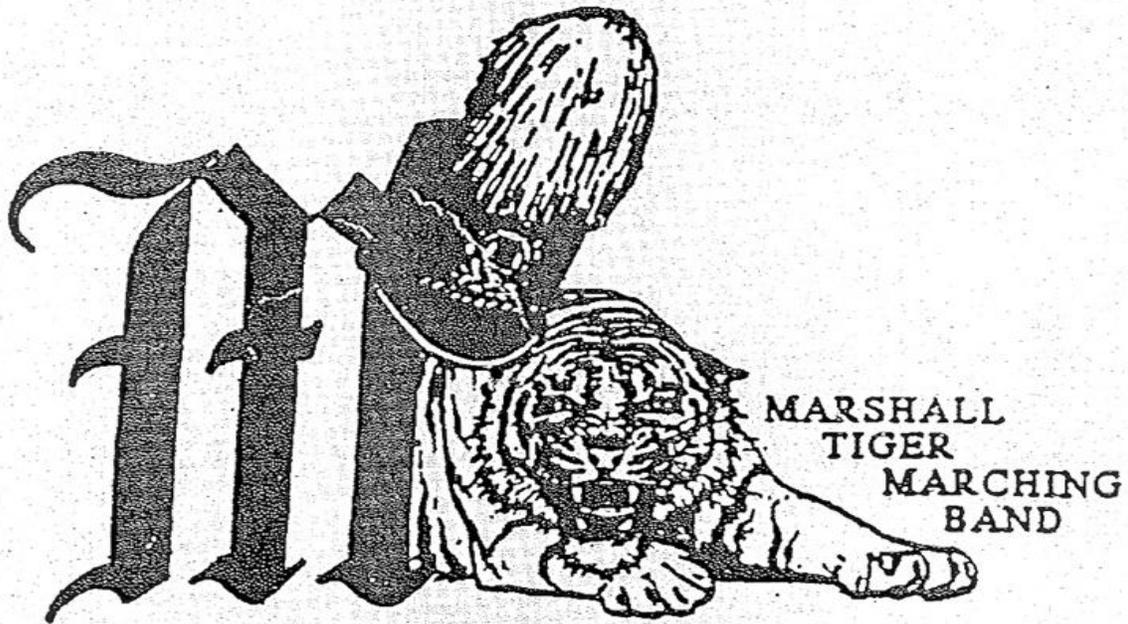


# MARSHALL TIGER MARCHING BAND



MUSIC YOU CAN FEEL

## PARENT HANDBOOK

Dear Parents

Welcome to the "unique" world of the Marshall Tiger Marching Band!

It has been our experience, as new parents in the marching band program that we often do not know the fine points involved in supporting our children in marching band. We hope this booklet will answer the most frequently asked questions.

If you have any further questions, phone any seasoned marching band parent. We're sure they'll be more than happy to answer them!

## PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR COMPETITION

- Be sure your child is packed their uniform, hat, black shoes (Dinkles), black socks, and black gloves before leaving for competition.
- Your child should wear clothes under their uniforms. A black T-shirt and shorts work best. These can be worn under jeans which will make it easy to change into their uniform.
- Pack a lunch and snacks—some competitions require food for one meal, occasionally two. Check with your child several days before. It's a good idea to pack some "healthy" food along with the "junk".
- Ask your child if they will need money for eating at restaurants. Each competition varies. Mr. Ivers instructs the students a couple days in advance of each competition regarding this.
- Your child will receive competition times, information sheets, and probably a map a couple days before each competition (from Mr. Ivers). Remind them to bring this information home to you !!! You can also get maps from MapQuest.
- As with other activities, newcomer band members sometimes receive "constructive" criticism from veteran members. This is meant to be helpful, but kids are kids, and sometimes they are not extremely tactful. Please be understanding if your child has had a tough day.
- Your child will have a strict report time the day of the competition. Get them there early. The band often practices before they load the busses. They will be with the band from the report time until the competition is over—NO exceptions.
- Following the competition, if you want your child to come home with you, there will be someone designated with the band that will have sign out for you and your child. School rule—students are only to be released to you!!!

## COMPETITION

- Plan on arriving at each competition at least one hour ahead of the start of the competition, if you want a seat. The best seats are as close to the 50 yard lines as you can get. Also, sit as high in the stadium as possible. Try to get to the competition so you can sit with the Marshall Parent/fan group. This way, your child and the competitors see a massive area of orange. It is very motivating for your child to see the support.
- Watch for information that is sent home with your child, regarding possible fan buses that may be available to several of the competitions.
- There is an admission fee at each competition ranging from \$6 to \$8. At Sioux Falls this fee covers the afternoon preliminaries and also the evening finals. The Youth in Music Competition has a separate fee for the afternoon and evening competitions.
- Coolers are not permitted at most competitions. If you plan on bringing food, be discreet. There are food, t-shirt, and program stands at each event. The food stands are a way for marching programs to earn money.
- Be prepared to be early for the evening competition in Sioux Falls. The bleachers fill up early.
- Look for the other Marshall parents and sit together. It's more fun in a BIG group and the kids can see "Marshall Fans" better when they enter the field.
- We always support all of the bands because it is the correct thing to do. Get there early and stay/support every band to the end of the show. Don't just "show up" for the Marshall band and then leave. Entering and leaving the completion is only allowed between the bands' performances. It is considered rude to come in and out of the stands while other bands are performing. Usually there is a designated person that will ask you to wait until the present band is done performing.

## WHAT TO EXPECT AT COMPETITION

### Dress for Parents:

- Dress for the weather, especially later in the season. Gloves, coats, blankets, and pads for the bleachers will help. The bleacher surface can get very cold!
- We encourage you to wear bright orange. When your child enters the field, it is encouraging to see the "sea" of orange supporting them. The bright orange is easy to spot and is a boost for them before they perform.
- Many marching band parents have purchased the orange Marshall Tiger Marching Band sweatshirts or t-shirts. These are available on the forms your child will bring home for ordering their yearly marching band t-shirts and sweatshirts. There are also parents who no longer have students in the marching band program that may be interested in "handing down" their sweatshirt/t-shirt.
- It is not required to wear this shirt, but it is nice to wear something orange.

**Orange may not be the most popular color, but we're all in the same boat! Let's get out and support our children!!**

## **COMPETITION RULES**

The band arrives early to change, warm up, tune and prepares to compete.

1. Band must check in ½ hour before time to compete
2. Band must be ready to enter the field 15 minutes before their competition time
3. The show must be between 8 – 11 minutes
4. There are no requirements as far as moves or music
5. The band must exit the field within two minutes of their show's ending
6. A band is allowed 1 minute warm up before starting their show, if they wish
7. There is no judging done while the band enters or exits the field
8. There are 3 – 10 judges at each competition
9. The areas of judging are visual execution, music execution, visual general effect, and musical general effect, color guard, and percussion
10. In some competitions, auxiliary awards are given. These awards are selected by the judge and not based on points. Examples of these are Drum Major and Outstanding Soloist Awards

## **MARCHING BAND BANQUET**

This will take place at the end of the marching band season. Individual and group awards are given at this time. Parents and marching band students are invited. Tickets must be purchased in advance for the student and parents. This is a fun night. Parents get a chance to see the friendships and caring the students and staff has for one another. Plan on attending!!

## VOLUNTEERING

Each year many volunteers are needed for the Pursuit of Excellence. We need ALL parents to help with this competition. There are many committees. Pursuit is where we work and support other bands. It is not a competition to watch.

**WE ENCOURAGE MARCHING BAND FAMILIES TO ATTEND THE COMPETITIONS. IT IS A THRILLING AND EXCITING EXPERIENCE. YOUR CHILD NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT!!! YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID!!!!**

### COMPETITION SITES

| Host School  | Location   | Information                                       |
|--|--|---|
| Eden Prairie<br>Sept. 8 – Noon start   | Eden Prairie High School<br>17185 Valley View Road<br>Eden Prairie, MN 55346         |   |
| Eastview<br>Sept. 8<br>5:00 start  | Eastview High School<br>6200 140 <sup>th</sup> Street West<br>Apple Valley, MN 55124 |   |
| Rosemount<br>Sept 15<br>5:00 start   | Rosemount High School<br>3335 142 <sup>nd</sup> Street West<br>Rosemount, MN 55068   |   |
| Marshall<br>Sept 22  | Pursuit of Excellence<br>SMSU – Matke Field at the<br>Regional Event Center          | All day-morning, afternoon, and evening           |
| Sioux City, IA<br>September 29<br>Prelim start 11:30<br>Finals start at 6:00 | Elwood Olsen Field at<br>Morningside College<br><br>-Travel time 3 hours             | Preliminary competition and evening top 10 finals |

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|--|---|--|
| <p>Sioux Falls, SD<br/> October 6<br/> Prelim start 11:30am<br/> Finals start 6:00pm</p> | <p>Festival of Bands</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Preliminary competition:</li> <li>-Evening Finals<br/> (top 10 bands)</li> </ul> | <p>Location to be announced<br/> Howard Wood Stadium<br/> take I-29 to Russell Street Exit</p> <p>Follow Russell to Western<br/> (stadium is on Western)</p>   |
| <p>Youth in Music/State<br/> Championships<br/> October 13</p>                           | <p>Minneapolis</p>  | <p>Mall of America Field at the<br/> Metrodome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Afternoon—11:00am start class<br/> championships</li> <li>-Evening—7:00pm start<br/> Youth in Music Grand<br/> Championships</li> </ul> <p>There is a separate<br/> charge for each competition</p> |
| <p>Bands of America<br/> Super Regional<br/> October 19 and 20</p>                       | <p>Edward Jones Dome<br/> St. Louis, MO</p> <p>Info listed at<br/> <a href="http://musicforall.org">musicforall.org</a></p>                       | <p>This is a 2 day event, Friday<br/> afternoon/evening and Saturday<br/> morning/afternoon prelims<br/> Saturday evening finals</p> <p>Marshall's prelim time is<br/> between 7:30 and 9:30 a.m.<br/> Saturday morning.</p> <p>There is a separate charge for<br/> prelims and finals</p>     |