



# Silver Magic Band Handbook 2008~2009

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## Letter from the Director

Mariner High School  
Department of Music

August 18, 2008

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to the Mariner High School Silver Magic band program! The administration, faculty, and I are looking forward to an exciting year. While there may be some changes this year, rest assured that **making quality music**, and upholding the **tradition of excellence** of the Silver Magic Band are our top priorities. I firmly believe that hard work and an unwavering path of improvement will result in our success and accomplishments this year.

In order for the band program to be successful, we must be united in three goals: **communication**, **honesty**, and **effort**. Keeping the lines of communication open will allow us to overcome and circumvent conflicts throughout the year. I will let you know of the intentions and schedule of the program. This handbook is the beginning of my communication to everyone, and is designed to help you become familiar with the music program and to provide you with important information that you will need throughout the year. As part of a whole, honesty and integrity are what keep us together. We are constantly in the public eye, and I need to be able to trust every individual in the band program. The final piece of this agreement is effort. Playing an instrument requires dedication, hard work, and patience! When everyone in the band program puts forth their best effort, our musical experience will be more enjoyable. The only limit to our success is the amount of effort put forth by both the teacher and the students.

Please read this handbook carefully and sign the applicable forms at the end of this handbook and return them to me. The required form is located in Appendix G.

The Silver Magic Band is looking forward to a productive and successful year. We have many events in store for this year and we are going to need a unified partnership between students, parents, and director to realize our goals. As we work throughout the year, we may earn trophies, awards, and recognition. In the end, we must always remember that it is the **journey** that we take together that will create lasting memories.

Musically yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sarah Hamilton". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Sarah E. Hamilton  
Director of Bands

## **MEMBERSHIP**

### **Marching Band**

All students registered for band class are expected to participate in the Silver Magic Marching Band and all appropriate rehearsals and performances. There are two evening rehearsals per week during the fall semester only.

The Silver Magic Marching Band is a highly respected and prestigious ensemble. We pride ourselves on our high quality of performances. This is the most visible ensemble in the band program and requires dedication and a drive to improve. Students may be exempt from the marching band as long as they fulfill **all** of the following criteria:

1. \*\* The student must be an upperclassman. All freshmen and first year members must participate in marching band.
2. The student must commit to a project as determined by the band director for the duration of the marching season.
3. The student must audition for All-County, and must perform a solo at the district FBA Solo and Ensemble MPA. If qualified, the student must also perform for the state MPA.

\*\*Exceptions will be made for the 2008-2009 year.

The band staff under the advisement of the school administration, reserves the right to dismiss any person from the band who poses a constant behavior problem or violates the policies presented in this handbook and the Mariner High School Student Handbook. Persons who withdraw in mid season or after the first semester will forfeit all rights and privileges as band members and cannot participate in any band events, including marching band trips that occur during this time. Furthermore, all fees related to the marching band season will continue to be the responsibility of the student that is dismissed. These students must also audition for placement before they can re-enter the band in future semesters.

### **Fundamentals Camp (Starting summer 2009)**

This is a four-day marching fundamental camp held at the beginning of June. Freshmen, new members, and Student Leaders are to attend all four days. Upperclassmen are to attend the final 2 days. This camp serves as an introduction to marching for incoming freshmen and a refresher for returning members. Music for the following season will be distributed and rehearsed during this camp. Schedule family vacations and appointments around this band camp.

*If you do not attend the Fundamental Camp and do not contact the Band Director you will not have a marching spot in the show!* Keep in mind that marching band is a requirement of all band classes. You will need to change your schedule or request an exemption if you do not plan to march.

### **Full Band Camp**

Summer band camp is required of all band and colorguard members. This is the most intense rehearsal and practice time during the year. The marching show drill and music are learned and rehearsed during this time. If you are unable to attend the full band camp, you must contact the Band Director. Schedule family vacations and appointments around this band camp. Marching in a drum corps will be the only acceptable excuse for missing band camp. This **MUST** be cleared with the Band Director.

### **Wind Ensemble**

The Wind Ensemble is made up of the top musicians in the band program. Membership requires outstanding performance ability (determined by an audition), behavior, and pride for the band. This band plays more difficult music than the other bands. The ensemble concentrates on advanced literature and advanced skill development. Participation in the district solo and ensemble MPA is required. This ensemble performs at all band concerts and FBA district and state MPA. *Although Wind Ensemble is our most prestigious concert ensemble, they play very difficult music that requires students to rehearse after school.* They are also judged harder at competitions and festivals because it is supposed to be an ensemble reserved for only the very best musicians with the strongest dedication to music performance.

### **Concert Band**

This group of students is made up of students who are extremely talented and hard-working, and are gaining the necessary experience to be accepted to the Wind Ensemble. This group is just as important, and most likely will also be attending the FBA district MPA. **The concert band has the same standards of musical excellence as the Wind Ensemble**, but with music that is not quite as difficult as the Wind Ensemble. This makes it easier to concentrate on developing the fundamental skills necessary for the best possible musical performance. Participation in marching band is required.

### **Jazz Ensemble**

Jazz band is comprised of students from the wind ensemble and concert band who maintain a high level of proficiency on their instrument and wish to expand their musical experience. This ensemble is open through audition only. There are currently two ensembles offered at Mariner. Membership in either ensemble is available *by audition only*.

### **Percussion**

The percussion class is made up of students with prior percussion experience at the middle school level, and a recommendation of the band director. Students will be exposed to battery percussion and concert percussion. All students will be expected to learn mallet instruments. All members of the percussion class are required to be members of the marching band and winter indoor percussion ensemble. This course requires additional practices outside the regular school day.

*Drum line* members are assigned parts and instruments based on an audition in the spring of each year. The drum line instructor and the Band Director conduct this audition. The Band Director in consultation with the drum line instructor makes these decisions final. Assignments are based on need, ability, and the best placement in regard to the drum line as a whole.

The *Front Ensemble* is made up of highly talented percussionists who are not placed on the drum line. This is a highly important section of the marching band, and is comprised of concert percussion instruments. The emphasis of this group is mallet percussion, timpani, and concert percussion accessories.

### **Eurhythmics**

This course is open by audition and placement only. Members of the Mariner High School Silver Magic Colorguard are selected by a tryout procedure in the spring of each year. Tryout information will be distributed during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the school year. The size of the group itself changes from year to year based on the show and the size of the band. The Band Director determines the number selected with Colorguard sponsor and instructor.

All members of the Colorguard must be available to practice and perform with the Mariner Silver Magic Marching Band. All rehearsals and performances are required to maintain membership. Any unexcused absences may result in dismissal from the band program. Colorguard members are considered members of the Silver Magic Band and are entitled to all rights and privileges of trips and events sponsored by the Silver Magic Band. All members are expected to participate in all fundraisers.

During the winter months, colorguard members become a part of the Indoor Winterguard. This performing group requires additional practices, and will compete at several competitions throughout the season.

All policies and procedures in regard to membership, behavior expectations, and attendance outlined in this handbook apply to Colorguard members.

## **STUDENT LEADERSHIP AND STAFF** – Roles and Responsibilities

**Band Captain** – The band captain will represent the band at official band functions. The band captain will oversee the student leadership staff, and will act as a liaison between the executive staff and the band members. The band captain will aid the band in boosting moral, and will set a positive example reflecting musical development and personal attitude.

### **Executive Staff**

**Secretary** – The secretary will be in charge of taking attendance at band functions, and performing secretarial duties as needed by the band director.

**Librarian** – The librarian will be in charge of music distribution and pickup, copying parts, filing music, maintaining an orderly filing system, and notifying the band director of any needed replacement parts.

**Historian** – The historian will be in charge of collecting and maintaining an accurate list of all band activities, performance programs, and photos and video of band activities. The historian will compile these items into a slide show/video presentation for the end of the year band banquet.

**Wind Equipment Manager** – The wind equipment manager will be in charge of maintaining the inventory, notifying the director of repair needs, keeping the storage room orderly, and cleaning up the band room. This individual will also make sure all equipment is brought in from the field, confiscating instruments left out and turning them in to the band director, and confiscating music left out and turning it in to the librarian. The equipment managers will be expected to delegate responsibilities.

**Loading Crew** – The loading crew will aid the equipment managers in loading all equipment for games, competitions, and performances. Loading crew members will be responsible for moving equipment efficiently, and carefully. Instruction will be given on the proper ways to handle and store equipment.

**Percussion Equipment Manager** - The percussion equipment manager will be in charge of maintaining a detailed percussion inventory, notifying the director of repair needs, keeping the storage room and percussion cabinet orderly, and cleaning up the band room. *The percussion equipment manager will be in charge of creating a list of needed equipment for performances. The equipment managers will be expected to delegate responsibilities.*

**Guard Equipment Manager** - The guard equipment manager will be in charge of maintaining an inventory of guard equipment, keeping the guard equipment storage room orderly, and cleaning up the band room or other rehearsal area. During indoor winter guard, the equipment manager will be in charge of making sure that all equipment is packed for competitions, and that equipment is properly put away after rehearsals and competitions.

**Historian** - The historian will be in charge of taking pictures at band functions and/or collecting pictures from other band members, creating a scrapbook and/or slide show for the end of the year band banquet, and keeping a detailed list of band functions and awards.

### **Music Staff**

**Drum Major(s)** – The drum major(s) will conduct the music for the marching band. He/She will possess a sense of tempo and steady beat, and will demonstrate musical maturity and aptitude. He/She will be expected to prepare and practice all music performed. This individual will also be responsible for leading warm ups and routines if a substitute teacher is present. The drum majors are responsible, with the aid of the equipment managers, to make sure all equipment gets to the field before rehearsal (podium, long ranger, Dr. Beat, etc.).

**Percussion and Guard Captains:** - The percussion and guard captains are responsible for the percussion and guard sections. These individuals will conduct/lead the group when separate from the entire band. These individuals will also be responsible for leading warm ups and routines if a substitute teacher is present.

**Section Leader** – Section leaders are responsible for their specific instrument section. They will constantly check the members of their section for proper execution of posture, playing position, technique, horn angle, tone quality,

intonation, and blend, and make corrections in a positive and polite manner. The section leader will also be responsible for maintaining order and focus at all band performances and rehearsals, collecting and returning music from their section to the librarian, and encouraging a positive and cooperative environment. Problems with discipline should be reported to the drum major or band director. They will also be responsible for reporting absences and tardiness to the secretary at the beginning of every rehearsal. The section leader will be responsible for starting all sectionals on time. He/She will be in charge of running music sectional rehearsals. They will learn everyone's parts and help with music and technique. If a teacher is present, the section leader will aid them as needed and maintain order and focus in the section. There will not necessarily be a section leader for every section. Section leaders will be chosen based on their qualifications.

## **PROCEDURES AND BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS**

### **General Behavior Expectations**

All band members are expected to conduct themselves in an exemplary manner at all times, because their actions reflect upon the **entire** organization. The following expectations are designed to make your time in the band program successful and enjoyable. All school policies will be upheld in addition to those set forth in the band handbook. It takes the maturity and responsibility of everyone in the band for rehearsals to run smoothly and accomplish our goal: making music! Self-discipline, a strong work ethic, and a positive attitude make this goal attainable. **The harder you work, the more successful you will be. There is no limit to our success.**

- Look at the person giving instructions. Give your undivided attention when anyone of authority (director, drum major, officer, or any adult) is on the podium. Inappropriate talking would severely limit our success.
- Treat each other, band staff, and chaperones with respect at all times.
- Be ready to play on time. Early is on time, on time is late.
- Respond with a positive attitude during rehearsals.
- Raise your hand to speak.
- If you make a mess, clean it up.
- Stay in your seat.
- Return all forms and other items at the proper time.
- Food, drink, and gum are not permitted in the band room.
- Profanity, vulgarity, and obscenity will not be tolerated.
- Make sure all your actions make the band better, not worse.
- Think: "If everyone in the band behaves like I do, would we be successful?"
- *Please see "Band Room and Facilities" for further expectations.*

Band members are not discouraged from engaging in healthy personal relationships; however, inappropriate physical or verbal PDA (Public Displays of Affection) cannot be tolerated at band related events. Remember, all Band activities are school sanctioned events and therefore, students are expected to adhere to school policies.

### **Consequences**

<b>Positive Consequences</b>	<b>Negative Consequences</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bonus/Merit points</li> <li>• Earning the privilege of traveling with the band</li> <li>• A more enjoyable experience in band</li> <li>• Earning respect as an individual</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demerits</li> <li>• Band room cleaning duty</li> <li>• Conference with student</li> <li>• Phone call/conference with parent</li> <li>• Leadership demotion</li> <li>• Detentions</li> <li>• Referral</li> <li>• Removal from the band program</li> </ul>

## Rehearsal Procedures and Equipment

- All back packs, purses, books, and other non-band related items are to be placed in your locker or in the side shelves during class time only.
- Music is to be in the rehearsal order written on the board.
- Have everything needed for rehearsal at your seat. (See Appendix A for required equipment)
  - Instrument in good playing condition (case under your chair for indoor rehearsal)
  - Valve oil, cork grease etc. (anything needed to take care of your instrument)
  - Copy of **your own** music
  - PENCIL (preferably mechanical)
  - Reed instruments must have 3 working reeds at all times and a reed case to store them in that protects and keeps them straight. Rotate between the three so all of them are broken in at any given time.
  - Brass players must have all necessary mutes that will be needed.
  - Percussionists must have equipment set up and ready to go according to the rehearsal schedule.
  - At the beginning of each rehearsal/class period, equipment may be obtained from the band office. At the conclusion of each rehearsal/class period, all equipment must be returned to its proper place in the band office.
- Rehearsal begins when the conductor steps on the podium.
- Stay in your seat unless given permission to leave.
- Personal items are to be removed from the band room following each class or rehearsal.

## School-Owned Instruments and Equipment

Each student who uses a school-owned instrument is completely responsible for the care of that instrument or piece of equipment. Lost or damaged items shall be replaced at the student's expense. Before school-owned instruments are checked out, a form in the inventory binder must be filled out with the director/equipment manager. Students must return any items checked out at the director's request.

## FOOTBALL GAMES, MARCHING COMPETITIONS, and CONCERTS

### Football Games and Marching Competitions

#### Before the Game/Competition:

Uniforms are to be picked up from the uniform room prior to football games and marching competitions. Inspections will be held by the band captain and drum majors prior to leaving for any marching band performance. This is done in order that the entire band looks uniform and appealing in the public eye. Please abide by the following guidelines:

- Hair must be secured completely under your shako.
- Earrings or jewelry are not permitted.
- Students must wear athletic shorts and the band **t-shirt** under the uniform. Wearing a tank top will result in stains in the uniform.
- Black socks, black gloves, gauntlets, and black marching shoes must be worn.
- Instruments must be clean, including the mouthpiece.
- Section leaders are to arrange for a time for the section to polish brass instruments prior to every marching performance.
- Absolutely no colored nail polish is permitted (clear only).

### **At the Game/Competition:**

- Only uniformed band members, staff, and chaperones are permitted in the band section of the stands.
- Band members must sit in their respective section and may not move from that section when the band is in the stands.
- Members may not play their instruments except when instructed to do so by a staff member or the drum major. *Individual playing is not allowed.*
- Always act in a professional manner.
- Be completely and properly uniformed at all times in public. (This includes keeping jackets zipped.)
- Do not bring any food/drink/snacks into the stands. Water will be provided in the stands.

#### *While in uniform...*

- Wear the uniform in its entirety at all times. No partial uniforms should be worn.
- Act in a professional manner at all times.
- Eating is not permitted.
- Refrain from any public display of affection, including holding hands.

### **After the Game/Competition:**

After we return to the band room, make sure you hang your pants, jacket, and gauntlets correctly on the hanger. Put your shako in its box and return these items to the band parents in the uniform room. **Items that are not properly placed on the hanger will not be accepted.** Please be considerate of the hard work the band parents put into maintaining the uniforms. Gloves and socks must be washed prior to the next performance and marching shoes must be wiped down.

### **Concerts**

Concerts are the reward for all the practice and rehearsal time spent on the music. Please abide by the following guidelines to make these successful events:

- Call time is ONE HOUR before the performance unless otherwise stated by the director.
- Excuse from a concert is rare. The calendar is presented at the beginning of the year. Please plan responsibly. In the event of an emergency, contact the band director immediately.
- Students must wear uniforms completely and correctly.
- Act professionally. Both musicianship and behavior establish a band's reputation.
- All students are to remain at each concert until the conclusion of the final band's performance. The director will indicate when you are allowed to leave. Attendance will be taken at all events.
- Please remain absolutely silent when other groups are performing.

## **USE OF THE BAND ROOM AND FACILITIES**

### **Facilities**

- Food, drink and gum are prohibited in the band room.
- If it is not yours, do not touch it. This includes the piano, percussion equipment, and all equipment in the band room.
- If you make a mess, clean it up.
- All equipment, including stands and chairs, must be returned to their respective positions after each use.
- Only percussion students may use the percussion equipment and mallets provided by the school.
- Any defacing or vandalism of the band facility is subject to penalties set forth in the Mariner High School Student Handbook.
- No students other than the band and colorguard members are allowed in the band room without permission or a pass.
- No student may use the stereo and electronic equipment in the band facility without permission from the Band Director.

### **Band Office**

This area is a private work area and is not to be entered by any student unless the director is present and/or grants permission for entry. Please knock/ask permission before entering. All students should keep in mind that this is a place of business and not a lounging area.

### **Uniform Room and Storage Rooms**

Students are not to be in the uniform room or storage rooms without the permission of the director.

### **Lockers**

“Stuff” is not allowed to be kept in lockers at any time. School materials must be stored in the locker during band class time, but must be removed at the end of class.

- Students may obtain a locker in the band room for \$5.00.
- Locks will be issued and ONLY those locks may be used. If at any time a lock other than the one you are issued is discovered on your locker, it will be cut off.
- The Band Director maintains the right to search the band lockers at any time. The only items allowed in the locker are:
  - Marching Season – clean clothes, shoes, music and an instrument
  - Concert Season – music and an instrument
- If items other than these are found in your locker, you will be warned, those items will be thrown away and you will lose the privilege to maintain a locker in the band room. Special permission may be obtained at the discretion of the director for *temporary* storage of school related items.
- The band will not be held responsible for any personal items stolen from the band facility at any time.

### **Telephone**

- The phone in the band office will be made available to members after school hours in order that they may arrange transportation home. Calls must be kept brief.
- During school hours, these phones are off-limits to students.
- Cell phones are not permitted in any band/guard rehearsal. Any cell phone seen during class will be confiscated to be picked up by your parent.

### **Refrigerator**

During the school year, students will not be permitted to use the band refrigerator. Please plan accordingly.

### **Practice Rooms**

- Practice rooms are for practicing only. Only one student is permitted in a practice room at a time. Any misbehavior in a practice room will result in loss of practice room privilege and you may be removed from the band program.

## **TRAVEL**

### **Trips**

- All students are required to travel to and from all events with the band.
- All chaperones are required to travel to and from all events with the band. No exceptions will be made.
- Cars may not be driven to any band activities unless school transportation is not provided. The only exception will be in the case of emergency with approval of the director. A travel release form must be on file in the band office.
- No student will be released until the group is formally dismissed.

### **Special Trips**

Special trips may be taken by the band from time to time. Only those students who have earned the privilege of going on these trips will be allowed to participate. In order to be eligible to attend, the following criteria must be met.

- The student must have been an active member of both the marching and concert band/wind ensemble.
- The student must have done their fair share of fund-raising for the school year.
- The student must have a good record of attendance, behavior and dependability, as well as a minimum GPA of 2.0.

## **Bus Procedures**

- All riders must remain seated when the bus is in motion.
- All riders must keep their heads, hands, and other articles inside the bus at **all** times.
- Audio/visual equipment is prohibited on the bus unless it is used with a personal listening device.
- Members must remain on the bus until instructions are given by the Band Director, chaperone or drum major.
- No one is allowed on the bus unless an adult chaperone or the driver is present.
- ***Inappropriate physical PDA or verbal exchange of a hostile or an intimate nature between students in uniform will not be tolerated.***
- Members are not allowed to switch buses for any reason.
- No eating or drinking without the expressed permission of the driver and the Band Director.

## **Transportation**

- Band members are expected to arrange their own transportation to and from school for all rehearsals and performances. Members are encouraged to have their rides pick them up promptly. The band room area is always chaperoned until all band members have secured a ride home.
- In keeping with the policy of the School District of Lee County, band members must travel to and from all events with the band on all band trips. No exceptions will be granted.

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

All band members are expected to be at every rehearsal and performance of the groups to which they belong. Absences prevent you from learning, and hold back the entire group. Appointments, work, and vacations should be scheduled around band rehearsals, performances, and activities. With proper planning, conflicts with other events CAN be avoided and need to be resolved in advance. If the student is at school, he/she is expected to attend rehearsal in the evening. Band is a co-curricular activity that is part of the elective fine arts curriculum. Attendance is expected and required for all scheduled rehearsals and performances. Attending events is a symbol of pride, high work ethic, and respect for your fellow band members. Every member is critical!

### **Excused Absences:**

Absences will only be excused if they were absolutely unavoidable. If a student must miss a performance or rehearsal, it is the student's responsibility to provide documentation at least **2 weeks** prior to the scheduled rehearsal/performance in order to be considered for an excused absence. In order to receive an excused absence, a note must be written and signed by the parent. This must include a detailed explanation of (1) actions taken to try to avoid the conflict and (2) why rescheduling was impossible. A note does not guarantee an excused absence. It must be for a valid reason that cannot be avoided in any way.

### **Emergency situations:**

In the event of an emergency, a parent/guardian must call the band office as soon as possible, and a signed note must accompany the student upon their return to school. These situations are always excused. They include:

- Illness
- Death in the family
- Extreme family emergency
- Wedding in the immediate family

**Unexcused absences:**

Remember, you can miss an event without receiving penalty provided the reason for the absence is excused. Therefore, there is no reason that anyone should have an unexcused absence. The following are examples of inexcusable absences from any band event:

- “I couldn’t get a ride”
- “I’m grounded”
- “I didn’t know about it”
- “I’m leaving town”
- “I have to work”
- “I have an appointment”

Doctor’s appointments should not be scheduled during events on the band calendar. If you have a conflicting appointment, a doctor’s note (with phone number and date) must accompany the note from the parent/guardian in order for an “excused absence” to be considered.

**Tardiness and Early Dismissals**

Late arrivals and early dismissals must also be cleared with the band director. Corrective measures will be taken against all personnel who arrive late to rehearsals. Band members will not be excused to leave after half time performances at football games except in the event of illness or family emergency. *Three late arrivals will constitute an unexcused absence.*

**PRACTICE SCHEDULES**

**Normal Marching Practice Schedule – August through November**

The following is the typical schedule for marching band practices. Due to extended weekends and holidays, modifications may occur. This schedule is subject to changes. Rehearsals end at the specified time, but the actual departure time will vary depending on clean up time and announcements.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday/Saturday
Full Band, Percussion, and Colorguard  5:30-8:30pm	<i>If there is no school Monday, rehearsal will be moved to Tues. 5:30-8:30pm</i>	<i>Possible Sectionals  Optional individual help</i>	Full Band, Percussion, and Colorguard  5:30-8:30pm	Football Games TBA  Competitions TBA

**Concert Season After-School Rehearsals – November through May**

The following is a typical schedule for concert practices. All full ensemble rehearsals include *all percussionists* involved with the concert literature for that ensemble unless otherwise noted by the director.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday/Saturday
Full <b>Wind Ensemble</b> (including percussion)  5:30-7:30pm	Full <b>Concert Band</b> (including percussion)  2:30-4:30pm	Sectionals	Sectionals	

## GRADING POLICY

Grades will be based on your individual performance of the following criteria:

- Rehearsals and Performances (A student's grade will be reduced by 5% for each of the first 2 *unexcused* absences; on the third unexcused absence the student will be dismissed from the program. The grade will be reduced by 10% for the first *unexcused* absence from a performance, and the student will be dismissed from the program on the second unexcused absence. An excused absence will hold no consequence to the student's grade or participation in band.)
- Class work
- Notebook Portfolio Assessment
- Quizzes and tests (playing and written)
  - Skills tests (including FBA Solo and Ensemble scores)
  - Marching band music memorization/guard work (must be "passed off")
  - Scale tests (pass/fail)
  - Concert music performance assessments
  - Occasional written exams on information learned about the music being rehearsed
  - Music theory exams (written)
  - All assessments are based on the Sunshine State Standards and National Standards for Music
- Home Practice Charts
  - Graded on completeness.
  - Be prepared to perform anything listed on your practice chart for a performance grade.
- Merit Points
  - \*See the section on merit points
  - Cumulative "bonus" points that are earned by hard work and extra effort

### **Performance and Rehearsal Policy**

Performances are the culmination of daily activities, home practice, quizzes, and theory quizzes. Students are required to attend all rehearsals and performances related to this course. Failure to fulfill this requirement may result in your removal from the band program. Any student who accumulates greater than 1 unexcused absence from a performance or 2 unexcused absences from rehearsals will be subject to removal from the band program.

For students not participating in marching band, the following criteria are also **required**:

- All-County Audition
- Solo and Ensemble District and State
- Additional projects as determined by the band director

### **Homework**

Putting individual time into your instrument is highly important. Knowing the notes and rhythms in your parts is your homework and a prerequisite for class! If everyone comes to rehearsal knowing their part, we get to work on the musical aspects of playing and band is more fun. Remember, practice is a time for individual learning at home, and rehearsal is a time for ensemble learning.

Regular home practice time is expected of all band members. Practice logs are to be turned in with a parent and student signature each Monday. There is no set minimum time for home practice. Practice charts will be graded based on completeness. Every student requires a different amount of time to learn their parts and assignments.

**NO LATE PRACTICE CHARTS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

## Merit Points

Throughout the year, students will be able to earn points for various performing activities. These points accumulate throughout the year, and will be used in determining awards for the end of the year Band Banquet. Every student will begin with 100 points.

Top 30% - Excellent Musicianship Award

Top 20% - Excellent Musicianship Award + half letter grade increase (evaluated each grading period)

Top 10% - Superior Musicianship Award + full letter grade increase (evaluated each grading period)

Top Points Earned – Director’s Award + full letter grade increase (evaluated each grading period)

### Earning Points

#### *Points for Music Performance*

Summer music camps .....	25+
Practice time (extra) .....	5+/half hour
Private Lessons* (submitted by the term end, min. of 7 per nine weeks) .....	40+
Private Lessons* (submitted individually, max of 6 per nine weeks) .....	5+
Audition for All-State .....	20+
Selection for All-State (must attend January FMEA) .....	30+
Honor Band attendance (Tri-State, Festival of Winds, UM Honor Band) .....	20+
Audition for the Southwest Florida Symphony Youth Orchestra .....	10+
Making and participating in SW Fl Symphony Youth Orchestra.....	20+
Audition for All-County Band .....	10+
Making and Participating in All-County Band.....	20+
District Solo and Ensemble participation .....	10+
Superior rating (per event) at District Solo and Ensemble MPA .....	15+
State Solo and Ensemble participation .....	15+
Superior rating (per event) at State Solo and Ensemble MPA .....	20+
Attending a classical music performance/concert** .....	5+
Instrumental performance in public .....	10+
Outstanding effort noted by Director .....	varies, submit request
Outstanding improvement noted by Director .....	varies, submit request

#### *Miscellaneous*

Exceptional fundraising effort.....	varies, submit request
Miscellaneous (as approved by Director).....	varies, submit request
Researching and submitting a written report on a music topic	
Service to the band	
Filing music	
Cleaning the band room	
Performing for public service	
Volunteering with our middle school band programs	

#### *Points for Student Leadership Staff*

Band Captain.....	40+
Drum Major.....	40+
Executive Secretary .....	30+
Executive Librarian .....	30+
Executive Equipment Managers.....	30+
Executive Historian .....	30+
Section Leaders .....	25+
Additional Leadership Staff .....	15+

\*Points for private lessons require the name and phone number of the instructor and a signature from the instructor for each lesson given.

\*\*Requires a concert program from the concert/recital attended with a parent signature.

ALL POINT REQUESTS MUST BE VARIFIED BY THE DIRECTOR AND RECORDED IN THE POINT LOG SHEET.

### Loss of Points

Failure to appear for a performance .....	100-
Missed performance (with prior notice given) .....	30-
Missing a rehearsal .....	15-
Disrespect towards authority .....	25-
Not dressed appropriately for rehearsal .....	10-
Not knowing music/routine/drill .....	5-
Not having music or pencil for rehearsal .....	5-
Not having drill book for rehearsal .....	5-
Measures not numbered .....	5-
Not having a binder with marching music in plastic sheet protectors .....	5-
No instrument/equipment for rehearsal .....	10-
No instrument/equipment for performance .....	25-
Instrument dirty, tarnished or poorly maintained .....	10-
Forgetting band shako .....	15-
No gloves for performance .....	10-
Dirty or stained gloves for performance .....	5-
Improper under-uniform (band t-shirt, shorts) .....	10-
Wrong shoes for performance .....	10-
Wrong socks or stockings .....	5-
Improper uniform for concert performance .....	5 to 10-
Hair not put up .....	5-
Jewelry (must be removed) .....	5-
Uniform worn improperly .....	5-
Dirty shoes .....	5-
Tardy ....	5 to 10-
Gum, food, or drink in band facility .....	10-
Use of profanity .....	varies-
Poor attitude/lack of effort .....	10-
Not remaining in position during inspection .....	5-
Handling equipment not belonging to or assigned to you .....	10-
Leaving folder/instrument/equipment out of place .....	5-
Not following uniform check-in/check-out procedure .....	5-
Not having 3 working reeds .....	5-

## **PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES**

- Solo and Ensemble
  - Performing in a solo or ensemble is an important experience that every musician needs to have. Students must choose a minimum grade 3 solo or ensemble from the FBA music list (available from the Band Director or on the website).
  - If you choose to perform in an ensemble, make sure the other members in your ensemble are reliable, academically eligible, and are in the same concert band class as you. Ensembles must rehearse several times together prior to the performance. Students who choose to perform a solo must pay for an accompanist.
  - All members are highly encouraged to participate. Students involved in Solo and Ensemble will also have the opportunity to audition to perform for the spring Prism Concert.
- All-State Auditions and performing with the All-State band/orchestra at the FMEA Convention in January
  - This is one of the most prestigious ensembles for high school students in Florida. A taped audition in September determines placement in one of these ensembles. Audition music includes two pre-determined etudes, 12 major scales and arpeggios, a chromatic scale, and sight-reading.
- All-County Band
  - This is an auditioned honor band comprised of the best musicians in Lee County. The audition is based on the 9-10 Band audition repertoire for All-State and the 12 major scales.
- Summer Music Camps

- College Honor Bands
  - There are several college honor bands in the state of Florida. (Tri-State, Festival of Winds, UM Honor Band) These ensembles are generally made up of junior and senior high school students. Honor bands consist of rehearsals over several days culminating in a performance.
- Southwest Florida Symphony Youth Orchestra
  - This ensemble requires an audition for acceptance.
- Philharmonic Youth Orchestra (Naples)
  - This ensemble requires an audition for acceptance.
- Private Lessons

## **UNIFORMS**

### **Marching Band Uniform**

- Band t-shirt and athletic shorts under the uniform
- Uniform Jacket
- Uniform Pants
- Gauntlets
- Shako
- Plume
- Black socks
- Black gloves purchased through the SMMB
- Black marching shoes purchased through the SMMB

### **Uniform Policy**

- Marching band uniforms should never touch the floor. They are to be on the hanger, in a garment bag, or on your body. This helps maintain the uniforms.
- Students should never be in public without their full uniform assembled correctly.
- ABSOLUTELY NO PDA WHEN IN UNIFORM.
- No jewelry or anything else that is not a part of the uniform is to be worn.
- Hair must tuck all the way under the shako. Bobby pins, hairspray, and hair ties will help with this.
- Do not attach or wear anything on your uniform that is not a part of the uniform.

### **Marching Band Alternative Uniform (Informal)**

- Khaki capri's or pants
- Black Band Polo
- Athletic Shoes

### **Marching Practice Uniform**

- Plain white t-shirt or white tour t-shirt
- Athletic shorts (Girls who chose to wear Softe shorts must wear spandex under them.)
- Athletic shoes (no Converse, flip flops, sandals, etc.)

### **Wind Ensemble Uniforms**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gentlemen           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Tuxedo jacket and pants</li> <li>– Plain white undershirt</li> <li>– Tuxedo shirt</li> <li>– Bow tie and cummerbund</li> <li>– Black socks and Black dress shoes</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ladies           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Mariner Concert Dress</li> <li>– Nude panty hose</li> <li>– Black, closed-toe dress shoes</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
|---|---|

## Concert Band and Jazz Band Uniforms

- Gentlemen
  - Black dress pants
  - Solid **black** button-down dress shirt
  - Black tie
  - Black socks, Black dress shoes, and Black belt
- Ladies
  - Black pants
  - Solid **black** dress shirt (must have sleeves with no shoulders showing)
  - Black, closed-toe dress shoes

## **FUNDRAISING REQUIREMENTS AND EXPENSES**

Maintaining a competitive marching band, winter guard, indoor percussion, and concert/jazz program is an expensive endeavor. We need your help to make sure that our program is able to offer this wide spectrum of activities to your student and to future students! The School District of Lee County is unable to fully fund the Silver Magic Band Program. Therefore, the following financial obligations are in effect:

- **All** band members are expected to participate in all fundraising activities. If everyone does their “fair share” the work load will be lighter and we will be able to continue to offer all the components of our outstanding program. If you prefer not to fundraise, you are more than welcome to write donation checks made out to the “SMMB Band Boosters.”
- Band members who fail to meet any financial obligations to the band will result in the withholding of the individual’s transcripts and it will be considered grounds to bar the individual from participation with the band in future seasons. All fees will be announced at the end of the school year prior to the next marching season. All payments must be completed no later than the last contest of the season, which is the state marching championship. Students will not be allowed to return if fees are not met or sufficient arrangements have not been made with the band director.
- Due to the enormous range of economic diversity, **NO STUDENT WILL BE DENIED THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE DUE TO FINANCIAL HARDSHIPS.** *If a student is placed in this category, it is expected and required that they participate in all fundraisers.*

### **Expenses**

#### **Marching Season cost for Returning Students: \$250**

This includes the band t-shirt, uniform dry-cleaning, and several other expenses associated with the marching season (clinicians, transportation, etc.)

#### **Marching Season cost for NEW students: \$250 + Freshmen Package (app. \$37)**

This includes everything for returning students, plus the Freshmen Package. This includes uniform shoes and one pair of uniform gloves.

#### **Fees for the 2008-2009 Season are due as follows:**

\$50 due by Fundamentals Camp – June 11  
\$100 band camp fee – Week 1 – July 28  
\$100 band camp fee – Week 2 – August 4  
Freshmen Package – Due upon receipt of gloves and shoes

#### **Concert Uniform: Cost Varies**

Men: Tuxedo (You have the option to rent or purchase your tuxedo).

Ladies: Concert Dress (All ladies in the Wind Ensemble wear the same concert dress)

### **Possible Additional Expenses**

- Replacement band t-shirt - \$17
- Replacement of lost/damaged uniform parts
  - Gloves - \$3 or \$5 (Velcro) (\$14 guard)
  - Socks - \$2
  - Dinkles marching shoes – app. \$37
  - Gig Bag - \$10
- Replacement of lost concert uniform parts (if rented)
- Dress shoes for concert uniform
- All-State Audition Fees (\$20)
- All-State Hotel and Registration (If you make all-state)
- Private Lessons
- District and State Solo and Ensemble fees
- Piano Accompanist
- Instrument Repair
- Band Banquet
- Band Trip

### **SILVER MAGIC BAND BOOSTERS**

Silver Magic Band Boosters is comprised of parents of band/colorguard members. The primary function of this group is to support the band. They support the band through fundraising, chaperoning trips, building and maintaining equipment, issuing and repairing uniforms, and anything else they can do to support and maintain an enthusiastic interest in band activities. Members cooperate with those in charge of the band and the school system to the end that the band be brought to and kept at the highest degree of efficiency. This group does not make or interfere with school policy.

Band parents/guardians are automatically a part of the Silver Magic Band Boosters. This group is successful due, in large part, to the active participation of both the parents and students of the Silver Magic Band program. Meetings are held on the first Monday of every month at 7:00pm in the band room.

#### **Current Executive Board**

President: Diane Rollins  
Vice President: Joseph Yapello  
Treasurer: Amy Yoho  
Secretary: Helyn Ferlazzo

## **Appendix A – Recommended Equipment**

2008-2009

All instruments must be in good working order. If your instrument is in need of repairs, please bring it to one of the music stores in the area (Cadence, First Note, etc.)

Before purchasing a new instrument, please consult with the band director or your private instructor to ensure that you make an informed decision regarding the quality of the instrument. The following is a list of guidelines for equipment. If you have a question regarding the equipment you have, please consult with the band director.

### **Flute**

- Cleaning Rod
- Silk swab
- Micro screwdriver
- Pad papers
- Polishing cloth

### **Clarinet**

- Silk swab
- Mouthpiece: VanDoren B45 or 5RV, Hite Artist Series
- Ligature: Rovner or equivalent
- Reeds: VanDoren V12 (3 or 3 ½ strength)
  - 3 working reeds at any given time
- Reed Holder
- Pad papers

### **Saxophone**

- Silk swab
- Mouthpiece: Selmer C\* S80, Rousseau New Classic
- Ligature: Rovner or equivalent
- Reeds: VanDoren (3 or 3 ½ strength)
  - 3 working reeds at any given time
- Reed holder
- Pad papers

### **Oboe/Bassoon**

- Silk swabs
- Reeds: Jones or hand made
  - 3 Working Reeds at any given time
- Reed case
- Bocal and seat strap (bassoon only)
- Pad papers

### **Trumpet**

- Straight mute, cup mute, and harmon mute
- Mouthpiece: Bach 3C or equivalent
- Valve oil (Hetman)
- Slide Grease (Hetman)
- Polishing cloth

### **French Horn**

- Mouthpiece – Giardinelli C8 or Holton Farkas MDC
- Rotary valve oil (Hetman)
- Slide grease (Hetman)
- Polishing cloth

### **Trombone**

- Straight mute
- Mouthpiece: Bach 6 ½ AL
- Slide-O-Mix
- Rotary valve oil (trombone with F attachment, or bass trombone)
- Slide grease (Hetman)
- Polishing cloth

### **Euphonium/Baritone**

- Straight mute
- Mouthpiece: Bach 6 ½ AL or Shilke 51D
- Valve oil (Hetman)
- Slide Grease (Hetman)
- Polishing cloth

### **Tuba**

- Mouthpiece – Bach 18, 24AW, or Conn Helleberg
- Valve Oil (Hetman – rotary or piston depending on the tuba)
- Slide grease (Hetman)
- Polishing cloth

### **Percussion**

- Mallet/stick needs will be announced as necessary

### **Guard**

- Rifle
- Dance shoes and Gloves
- Practice attire

## Appendix B – Playing Exam Rubric

Title of piece/passage \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Performance Competency	Emerging	Competent	Advanced	Distinguished
Rhythm Accuracy & Tempo	Performance includes many rhythmic errors. The performer cannot play from beginning to end of a certain passage.	Performer can play passage from beginning to end but not on the first try. Several incorrect rhythms occur and/or the beat is not steady. Performer should practice passage slowly with a metronome using subdivisions.	Performer maintains steady beat throughout most of the passage. Nearly all rhythms are correct, and slight inaccuracies may be present	Performer maintains steady beat throughout. There are no rhythmic errors.
Note Accuracy	Performer is unprepared to perform and has not taken enough responsibility to learn correct fingerings/notes.	Performer has several and/or consistent note errors. Performer needs to practice notes in succession temporarily ignoring the rhythm. Double check the fingerings for every note keeping the key signature in mind. Brass players should have a piano or other pitch reference.	Few wrong notes exist. Performer is aware of the key signature and can recognize incorrect notes if asked to repeat a certain part.	All notes are correct.
Intonation	The majority of notes are out of tune. There are many perceivable intonation errors.	Some notes are out of tune and no adjustments are made during performance. While practicing long tones, ensure each note is in tune. Do not tune each note of the song. Practice with a partner and focus on intonation with each other.	Performer plays the majority of notes in tune <u>and</u> makes adjustments while playing.	There are no perceivable intonation errors.
Tone Quality	Tone is not appropriate for the age (breathy, raspy, thin, unsupported etc.) or is not even throughout the range.	Performer has many fluctuation of tone quality, but has an idea of characteristic tone. Practice long tones (using a tuner) and strive for an open and relaxed sound. Listen to recordings of professional players to hear good tone quality.	Tone is generally characteristic/appropriate and even, with some exceptions.	Tone is characteristic/appropriate and even throughout the range (resonant, placed, well-supported)
Technique & Posture	Performer shows little or no effort towards proper technique and/or posture.	Performer shows little regard for precision. The player may show initial effort but loses either posture or technique while playing a passage. Ensure correct technique and posture before and after playing every line or passage.	Performer shows effort towards correct technique and posture, but some inconsistencies exist.	Performer uses correct technique and posture. These skills have developed and appear natural and comfortable to the player.
Interpretation & Musical Effect (Articulation, Dynamics, and Phrasing)	Performance shows no emotion or care given to musicality. No attention is given to the written articulations, dynamics, and phrasing.	Performance shows some effort towards the musical line(s). When practicing a particular passage, sing the line first. Determine correct articulations, and consider all markings (ex; dynamics, phrasing, tempo.)	Performer acknowledges the majority of markings and performs most of the written articulations, dynamics, and phrasing.	Performer acknowledges all markings. The performer has prepared the piece/passage to a point where the emotional intent of the composition is clear. The performer also demonstrates the concept of tension and release.

### Appendix C – Practice Log

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_ Dates \_\_\_\_\_

Day	What did you Practice? (be specific!)	How long?	Total time this week	Student & Parent Initial
Monday	Warm Up: Repertoire:			/
Tuesday	Warm Up: Repertoire:			/
Wednesday	Warm Up: Repertoire:			/
Thursday	Warm Up: Repertoire:			/
Friday	Warm Up: Repertoire:			/
Saturday	Warm Up: Repertoire:			/
Sunday	Warm Up: Repertoire:			/



## Appendix E – Band Calendar

### Band Calendar 2008–2009

The following list of activities is subject to changes and additions. Please check the website for additional announcements. Updated calendars will be distributed and posted in the band room as changes are made.

#### **Fall Semester**

Band Camp Week 1 .....	July 28-Aug 1	9am-6pm
Band Camp Week 2 .....	Aug 4-Aug 8	2pm-9pm
Pre-Season Marching Performance .....	Aug 8	8pm
Normal Marching Rehearsal Schedule begins .....	Aug 11	See above
Boston Brass Clinic .....	Aug 13	5:30-7:45pm
Football vs. East Lee County HS - HOME .....	Sept 12	
All-State Auditions .....	Sept 13	Individual
Band Photography .....	Sept 19	7:30am-2:30pm
Partners in Education Breakfast .....	Sept. ?	TBA
Football vs. Estero HS – HOMECOMING .....	Sept 26	
Additional Marching Practice** .....	Oct 3	5:30-8:30pm
MARCHING BAND COMPETITION #1 .....	Oct 4	ALL DAY EVENT
Football at Ft. Myers HS – AWAY .....	Oct 10	
Football vs. North Fort Myers HS – HOME .....	Oct 24	
MARCHING BAND COMPETITION #2 Cape Coral HS .....	Oct 25	TBA
Football vs. Ida Baker HS – HOME .....	Oct 31	
FBA District Marching MPA .....	Nov 1	TBA
Football at Cape Coral HS – AWAY .....	Nov 7	
PREVIEW OF CHAMPIONS .....	Nov 8	ALL DAY EVENT
Additional Marching Practice** .....	Nov 11	5:30-8:30pm
Football vs. LaBelle HS – HOME SENIOR NIGHT .....	Nov 14	
FMBC STATE COMPETITION TRIP .....	Nov 22-23	TBA
Concert Rehearsal Schedule Begins .....	Dec 1	See above
All County Honor Band .....	Dec 11-13	Sat Concert 1pm
WINTER CONCERT .....	Dec 16	7:30pm

#### **Spring Semester**

FMEA Conference/All-State Band .....	Jan 8-10	
<i>Winter Guard and Indoor Percussion Competitions TBA</i>		
Additional WE Rehearsal .....	Jan 20	5:30-7:30pm
Additional CB Rehearsal .....	Jan 20	3-5pm
Sectionals Begin .....	Jan 21	Wed/Thurs TBA
FBA District Solo and Ensemble MPA .....	Feb 5-7	Individual
Auxiliary MPA .....	Feb 7	TBA
Tentative Pre-MPA performance .....	Feb 19	TBA
Wind Ensemble/Concert Band Camp .....	Feb 14	TBA
Edison Children’s Parade .....	Feb 15	TBA
Edison Festival of Lights .....	Feb 21	TBA
Tentative Pre-MPA performance .....	Feb 24	TBA
FBA District Concert MPA .....	Mar 5-7	Date/Time TBA
FBA State Solo and Ensemble MPA .....	Apr 6-8	Individual
Wind Ensemble Camp .....	Apr 18	TBA
FBA State Concert MPA .....	Apr 20-24	Date/Time TBA
Spring Prism Concert .....	May 19	7:30pm
Band Banquet (Tentative Date) .....	May 22	TBA
Fundamental Camp 2009 .....	June 16-19	TBA

**Appendix F – Event Excuse Form**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date Submitted \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Event \_\_\_\_\_ Event Date \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for being unable to attend \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Director's Approval \_\_\_\_\_ (form is only approved w/ director's signature)

This form must be completed and turned in to the director at least 2 weeks prior to the event. This form does not apply to emergency situations. Call the Band Room at 239-772-9086 ASAP in the event of an emergency.

## **Appendix G – Information Acknowledgement Contract**

### **Band Information Handbook Acknowledgement Contract**

I/we hereby acknowledge that I/we have read and understood everything in the “Silver Magic Band 2008-2009 Handbook.” This includes, but is not limited to the following:

1. All rules, regulations, and policies
2. Ensemble Requirements
3. Private Lesson Suggestion
4. Expectations and Responsibilities
5. Expectations for Rehearsals
6. Grading, Attendance, and Tardiness Policies
7. Uniform Policies
8. Procedures and Rules for Football Games and Competitions
9. Fundraising Requirements and Financial Information
10. Calendar, and understanding that it is subject to changes and additions
11. Rehearsal Schedule, and understanding that is it subject to changes

I/we understand that not adhering to the regulations and policies of the Mariner High School Silver Magic Band and the Mariner High School student handbook may result in disciplinary action, removal of performance privilege, or removal from the band program.

Signed:

**X** \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Band Member)

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**X** \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Parent/Guardian)

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**X** \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(Parent/Guardian)

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please sign and return this form to the band director within one week of receiving it for a grade.**