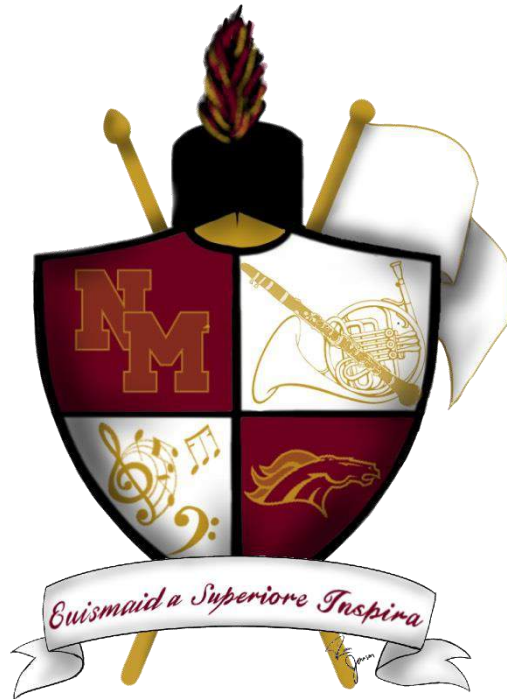


North Marion High School Band Program



2026 - 2027 New Member Pack

Aaron Janosa, Director of Music

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nmhsmusic.com

All of the following documents must be signed and returned by Saturday, May 16th

Please note that these policies, and all signed agreements apply for the full school year. *They are subject to change at any time in order to align with MCPS or School policies.*

What ensembles are there at NMHS?

- Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Jazz Band – meets daily
- Competition and/or Football Marching Band (Immediately after school on select days)

What are after school commitments like?

- **Competition Marching Band Rehearsals** (August – November)
 - Tuesdays and Thursdays: 3:30 – 6:30pm
 - Wednesdays: 3:30pm – 4:30pm. Sectional rotation, individuals only stay on select weeks
 - Friday Football Games: After School – End of Game (generally 11pm)
 - Select Saturdays
- **Football-Only Marching Band Rehearsals** (August – November)
 - Friday Football Games: After School – End of Game (generally 11pm)
- **Symphonic Band & Wind Ensemble Rehearsals** (November – End of School Year)
 - Tuesdays: 3:30pm – 6:00pm
 - Select Saturdays
- **Jazz Band Rehearsals** (December – End of School Year)
 - Thursdays: 3:30pm – 5:30pm
 - Select performance days on week days or weekends

What is the Competition Marching Band (and Color Guard)?

- Most visible and only competitive component of the band program – award winning ensemble!
 - **Silver-medalist ensemble – 2nd place at State Championships in 2025!**
- Performs at school sporting events and band competitions, *also requires the greatest time commitment*
 - Tuesday & Thursday Rehearsals, a few Wednesday sectionals
 - Friday Football Games
 - Select Saturday Competitions and Rehearsals
 - Will be enrolled in the “7th period” Marching Band course – attendance is graded

What is the Football-Only Marching Band?

- Most visible component of the band program – school spirit is strong at North Marion!
- Performs at football games & pep rallies – *lighter time commitment*
 - Friday football games only
 - Will be enrolled in the “7th period” Marching Band course – attendance is graded
 - **If you are in the band program at all, everyone does this!**

What are the Concert Bands?

- The nucleus of the band program, performs indoor concerts – Superior-rated ensemble!
- Divided into Symphonic Band (incoming/younger musicians) and Wind Ensemble (upper level/audition based)
- Very manageable time commitment
 - Tuesday rehearsals and select Saturday performances
 - Opportunities for additional performances (Solo and Ensemble, etc.)
 - Full year course that meets every day in school, with required & graded rehearsals bi-weekly
- Addresses all aspects of musicianship
 - Performance, theory, sight-reading, performance anxiety, practice techniques, and more

What is the Jazz Band?

- Performing and travelling ensemble, prepares a large selection of charts to be ready for community performances
 - Full year course that meets every day in school
- Performs music of all styles including swing, latin, rock, funk, popular tunes, etc.
- Thursday rehearsals (after Marching Band is over)
- Auditions *may* be used to select membership

Can I take multiple Band classes?

- YES! In general, NMHS students get 2 electives per year. Many band students use that as an opportunity to play multiple instruments.

Can I be in Band and do AICE/Sports/Clubs/have a job, etc.

- YES! The majority of our band takes or has taken AICE classes. Many are involved in Student Leadership, sports, have a job, or some combination of the above. Bottom line: we will work with you if you work with us!

What are the uniforms like? Aren't they expensive?

- Uniforms are not expensive at all! In fact, they generally cost MUCH less than varsity sports, Cheer, etc. They are designed to be reused year-to-year (outside of changing sizes and replacing from normal wear)
- **Marching Band uniform** – school provided and brand new for 2026!!
 - Cleaning, adjustments, repairs covered by band program
 - Students responsible for damage caused by negligence
- **Under-Uniform – student purchased**
 - Everyone purchases their own
 - Consists of shirt, shorts, hat, marching shoes, backpack, and water jug (long socks provided on your own)
 - Worn at all marching band events, either by itself or under the full uniform
 - **Save money here!** *Uniforms in good condition may be reused each year*
- **Concert Band Uniform – student purchased**
 - Students purchase black dress shirts from our uniform supplier. Students provide your own black dress pants.
 - Worn at all formal concert events, MPA, etc.
 - **Save money here!** *Uniforms in good condition may be reused each year*

Costs

- Band costs over \$60,000 each year *just to function*
- That doesn't include buying instruments, extra travel, etc.
- We are very lucky that the district provides significant funding for our usual travel, instrument repairs, etc.
- We still need to pay & fundraise to cover additional costs
 - Consumable items (uniforms, etc.), student meals, registration fees, clinicians, awards
- Discounts and financial aid available on an individual basis
- ***One of the cheapest and most comprehensive activities on campus! We never charge additional hidden fees when a student steps on a bus or enters into a full-band event.***

Financial Overview

The below is a brief overview of costs and financial information - it is not exhaustive

See the Financial Agreement (must be signed) for detailed cost breakdowns.

→ The band will never turn anyone away due to financial concerns or inability to pay. Mr. Janosa knows firsthand what it's like to grow up in a family with limited resources. We will work with everyone.

Uniforms and Fees: Max of \$260 – goes down substantially after year 1!

- This is your highest possible “out-of-pocket” cost. It pays for things that benefit each student directly, mostly uniform items. *These items should be kept year to year!*
 - Realistically, think of this cost as just \$25/month throughout the school year.
-

Other Costs?

- Other things do come up, which we aim to minimize. When we travel off campus, students may need to bring money to purchase lunch/dinner. Can they just bring a bagged lunch if necessary? Of course!
- Instrument supplies (reeds, valve oil) are the responsibility of each family as well. We can provide aid on an as-needed basis.
- Bottom line...we will work with you!

The Investment

- Supporting your student through band is an *investment*.
- Band students have a team of teachers and staff who mentor them all year long, for four years.
- Band students have countless scholarship opportunities after high school, even if they do not major in music. (Music scholarships are infinitely easier to access than sports scholarships).
- Band students are some of the most motivated, school-spirited, and academically successful students on our campus.
- Marion County Public Schools supports the arts better than most counties in Florida.
- Our individual costs are 2-4x lower than the average comprehensive band program.

The First Up-Front Cost (Competition Band)

- We request a \$50 commitment fee by June 1st
- This is a down payment toward our up-front costs
- If you need financial assistance, just let us know!

Band Boosters

- Assists with all logistical aspects of the band program
- Provides chaperones, runs concession stand, etc.
- Fundraises to purchase equipment, instruments, and pay staff
- Assists with operations of the marching festival
- *All parents/guardians are “boosters” – it takes a village to raise these awesome students!*
- Email Alicia.tank@marion.k12.fl.us to volunteer or offer your specialized skills!

Communication

Band Website – nmhsmusic.com

- Official calendar and forms
- Information for friends/family/community

CutTime – our “one stop shop” for events, money, and announcements

- You will receive weekly updates from a service called “CutTime” via text message and/or email
- Using just the link on your phone, you can see all of your student’s band info 24/7

Upcoming Dates

- **Colt Stampede Days! All future and new members welcome. No commitment, no costs, all fun!**
 - **Friday, May 15th** from 5pm – 8pm
 - **Saturday, May 16th** from 9am – 4pm
 - **Competition Band Summer Sectionals – Attend if you are in town**
 - **Tuesday, June 2nd**
 - Percussion & Color Guard: 10am – 2pm (bring your own lunch)
 - Others as announced via CutTime messages
 - **Wednesday, June 3rd**
 - Woodwinds: 10 - 12pm
 - Brass: 1pm – 3pm
 - **Competition Band Summer Rehearsal – Attend if you are in town**
 - **Tuesday, July 14th** from 5pm – 7:30pm
 - **BAND CAMP @ North Marion HS! Required to participate in Competition Marching Band**
 - **July 22nd – 24th Half-day schedule** from 8:30am – 5pm
 - **Fri, July 24th: Mandatory Parent Meeting** to follow at 5pm
 - **July 27th – July 30th: Full-day schedule** from 8:30am – 9:00pm
 - **Friday, August 1st: 8:30am – 6:30pm & Community Showcase Performance @ 6:30pm**
 - **“Mock” Football Game – all current and future band members required**
 - **Friday, August 7th** from 5pm – 8pm
 - This is our opportunity to prepare our pregame show, and assign uniforms to anyone who did not attend band camp.
 - *Students who miss this date may not be ready for their first football game performance*
- ➔ **Attached paperwork due by May 16th and \$50 commitment fee due by June 1st**
- **New members can pay their commitment fee on our band website home page**
 - **www.nmhsmusic.com**

Registration Steps

Follow steps 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 on the following pages

Step 1: NMHS Band Registration Form

Our band website is information central for dates and important news.
Please bookmark and memorize the address.

www.nmhsmusic.com

Member Registration

- New and returning members must register for band using the “Registration Form” button on our home page
- Please fill out the form completely and ensure you submit!

Step 2: 2026 – 2027 NMHS Band Financial Agreement

Please carefully look through the below costs and financial expectations. As always, it is the goal of the band to make music and band accessible to all students. If you are unable to make any of the below commitments, or require flexibility in terms of payment, please make an appointment to speak with the Director as soon as possible. *No student will be turned away from the North Marion High School Band because of financial concerns.*

Fundraiser Participation

I agree to support our organization via *full and active participation in band-sponsored fundraisers*. This is not a requirement to sell a certain number of items. Rather, it is an agreement to follow fundraiser action plans and participate to the best of your ability.

Consumable Items and Fees (Not fundraisable)

I agree to pay the following fees in order to provide consumable uniform items and services for my student(s). I understand that uniform items should last for multiple years when properly taken care of. I also understand that students are required to wear these specific items in order to perform, and receive grades for those performances. Replacement fees may be higher since they are not re-ordered in bulk. If I cannot pay these fees for any reason, I must immediately notify the Director so that alternative arrangements may be made.

- ➔ **If you plan to participate in our Competition Marching Band, a \$50 commitment fee is due by June 1st – it is applied to the fees/uniform prices below.** This guarantees your uniform availability, and spot in our marching band show.
- ➔ **If you need financial assistance with this, please let us know ASAP**

Consumable Items and Fees

➔ **Unfortunately, these costs are non-refundable. Remember that band is a year-long commitment.**

Item	Who needs it?	Cost
Marching Band Under-Uniform	Everyone (except returners who already have this)	\$85
Concert Uniform	Everyone (except returners who already have this)	\$25
Competition Marching Band Fee	Everyone committed to the <i>Competition Marching Band</i>	\$150
Football Marching Band-Only Fee	<i>Every band member not in the Competition Band</i>	\$75
Maximum Total		\$260 – This goes down significantly after your first year if you keep your uniforms in good condition!

Additional Costs/Items

The following costs may be incurred on an individual basis. Marching winds **need** a working flip folder and lyre – you can borrow from the school but are responsible for their return. Optional instrument rentals (students who have their own instrument but choose to use a school instrument) will owe a rental fee to maintain the instrument properly. Replacement lyre/flip folder costs listed below.

Item/Event	Cost	Item/Event	Cost
Flip Folder	\$15	All-State Audition	\$20
Lyre	\$10	All-County & All-District Bands	\$20
Optional Instrument Rental (full year)	\$50	Solo and Ensemble Accompanist	\$50/event

Affordability

Band is one of the most comprehensive and affordable opportunities for students on campus. Very few activities offer as many short-term and long-term benefits as does participating in our band program.

- Our uniforms are essentially re-usable from year to year. This means a \$25 formal concert uniform essentially costs \$6/year if a student participates all four years.
- These fees include a contribution to bring in professional musicians and instructors. A *single private lesson* could cost as much or more than each student's contribution to that fund.
- Long term: Playing an instrument opens up huge opportunities for college scholarships (on the order of thousands of dollars!)
- Because of our fantastic Booster organization, we can provide financial assistance to students who cannot afford particular items/fees on a given date.
 - Caveat: the only way we can help is if we know there is a concern. Communication is key!

Parents/Guardians:

I agree to pay for the above listed fees (as applicable) in order for my student(s) to fully participate in the activities of the North Marion High School Band Program, and fundraise as feasible. I understand that students must wear required uniforms/supplies in order to perform with the NMHS Band, and that performing is required to receive a grade. I further acknowledge that consumable items are the responsibility of my student(s)/family, and that if items are lost, they must be re-ordered (at a potentially higher cost) in order to meet performance requirements. I also agree that items ordered and not paid for in a timely manner will result in my student being added to the school debt list.

Parent/Guardian Name (Print Clearly)

Parent/Guardian Signature and Date

Students:

I agree to fully participate in all fundraising activities, and that I may not attend extra-curricular trips/activities if fees go unpaid. I also acknowledge that I am responsible for all of my uniform items and purchased accessories, and that I must replace them if I lose or otherwise damage them. I also understand that I am required to wear uniform items completely (as applicable to the event) in order to perform and receive a grade for the event.

Student Name (Print Clearly)

Student Signature and Date

Step 3: 2026 – 2027 NMHS Band Handbook Contract

View the Handbook on our website: www.nmhsmusic.com

Once a student has signed up for band and enrolled in the appropriate classes, it is expected that they will complete a full academic year commitment to the band. After the second week of the school year, a student may only be withdrawn after a conference with the student, parents/guardians, Band Director, and guidance counselor. Conversely, students in significant breach of contract may be removed from the band program at the discretion of the Director and Principal.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS:

I have read the policies and rules pertaining to membership and participation in the North Marion High School Band Program. I further understand the conditions and regulations as set forth and do hereby grant my permission to participate in Band. In addition, I agree to uphold the rules and regulations as forth by the Director. I also acknowledge that my child is enrolled in a performance-based curriculum for academic credit and I agree not to use suspension of his or her participation in rehearsals or performances as a disciplinary tool.

Parent/Guardian Name (Print Clearly)

Parent/Guardian Signature and Date

STUDENTS:

I have read the policies and rules pertaining to membership and participation in the North Marion High School Band Program. I further understand the conditions and regulations as set forth and do hereby agree to obey and abide by them. I will cooperate with the Directors and Staff and perform my duties to the best of my ability. I understand that if I do not follow the policies set forth in the above Handbook, I can and will be removed from any ensemble.

Student Name (Print Clearly)

Student Signature and Date

Step 4: Ensemble Auditions

New members *may* submit an audition to be placed in the most appropriate band class.

See requirements on www.nmhsmusic.com

New Member Auditions

- Incoming students may submit a recorded audition for ensemble placement
- *No student will be turned away from band – do not worry about “being accepted”!*
- This is simply to place each student in the best learning environment!
- Students will either be placed into the Symphonic Band (most freshmen) or the Wind Ensemble (generally upperclassmen and experienced performers).

Auditions are due by May 15th (or other arrangements are made).

Step 5: MCPS Permission Forms

To comply with MCPS policies, please fill out all of the attached forms to participate in Stampede Days and year-round band events.

It is imperative that you fill out each form completely and with clear handwriting. These forms are used in emergencies to contact family members and/or initiate medical treatment if necessary.

The attached forms you are signing include:

- Stampede Days “Emergency Contact” form
- Stampede Days “On-Campus Permission” form
- 2026 – 2027 full year/blanket “Emergency Contact” form
- 2026 – 2027 full year/blanket “On Campus Permission” form

You will receive at least one additional full year/blanket “Off Campus” permission form once the school year starts.

Your student cannot participate in any NMHS Band Activities until all forms are completed in full and signed by an adult parent/guardian.

NMHS Band 2026 - 2027

Participation Cost Overview

All Members: Required Uniforms

- 1) Under Uniform: **\$85** (use for multiple years)
- 2) Concert Uniform: **\$25** (use for multiple years)

If you choose this:

Competition Band = **\$150**
(Yearly participation fee)

If you choose this:

Football Band = **\$75**
(Yearly participation fee)

All members: full and active participation in fundraisers and volunteer events throughout the year

Detailed Cost Breakdown

What do I receive for these uniform and participation fees?

Under-Uniform – Used for all marching band and athletic activities

Reused yearly (items must be replaced if not in performance condition)

Item	Cost
NMHS Band T-Shirt	\$15
Basketball Shorts	\$8
Baseball Cap	\$4
NMHS Band Backpack	\$10
Water Jug	\$13
Uniform Marching Shoes (also used for concert uniform)	\$35
Long Black Socks (provide your own)	\$0
Total Cost to You	\$85

Competition Band Fee

For students who choose to participate in this ensemble

Item	Cost
Competition Band Fee	\$150
Specialized Staff	\$0
Pre-Travel Meals	\$0
Buses	\$0
Event Entry Fees	\$0
Field Props	\$0
Marching Instruments	\$0
School Uniform Upkeep	\$0
Total Cost to You	\$150

Concert Uniform – Used for all concert ensemble performances

Reused yearly (items must be replaced if not in performance condition)

Item	Cost
Black Dress Shirt	\$22
Black Bowtie	\$3
Dress Shows (use Dinkles from marching Band)	\$0
Black Dress Pants (provide your own)	\$0
Long Black Socks (provide your own)	\$0
Total Cost to You	\$25

Football Band Fee

*For all students **not enrolled in Competition Band***

Item	Cost
Football Band Fee	\$75
Specialized Staff	\$0
Pre-Event Meals	\$0
Buses	\$0
Marching Instruments	\$0
School Uniform Upkeep	\$0
Total Cost to You	\$75

Note: Financial Aid available on a limited basis! Contact Mr. Janosa in writing at aaron.janosa@marion.k12.fl.us if necessary.
Fees and uniform costs are **non-refundable** after the add-drop period ends, typically two weeks after school starts.