

Marching Warriors

Attendance Policy

Participation in the marching band requires a strong commitment to all scheduled events. Membership in the Marching Warriors is completely voluntary, but once a student decides to join, he/she will be expected to adhere to a stringent attendance policy. In fairness to all participating students and the quality of their experience, all absences from regular season activities will affect a student's status with regards to future performances. Each member is a vital component of each and every performance. Attendance at all rehearsals directly impacts the quality of these performances.

The Marching Warriors time commitment can be divided into two primary components:

- ❖ **Pre-season** activities include:
 - *Drumline and Colorguard Clinics* in April and May
 - *Fundies* camp in early June
- ❖ **Season** activities include all published events beginning with the *Summer Sectionals* through the *Memorial Day Parade* in May. Please note that an absence from the *Memorial Day Parade* can affect a student's status for next year's marching band season. Seniors are expected to fulfill their commitment by participating fully in the parade.

All activities are listed on the tentative and full season schedules that are published each year.

Punctuality

Please note that all rehearsal and performance times listed on the season schedule are the times when events will actually begin. Please have your student at the high school at least 15 minutes prior to the listed times so that they have adequate time to get their instrument, chips, coordinate book, and walk to the field. Tardiness is recorded and can have an impact on a student's marching status.

Excused absences

Students may be excused from a rehearsal or performance only with a parent contact to Mr. Carroll. Students will not be excused from Marching Warriors activities without a parent request. Work conflicts, excessive homework, group projects and test review sessions do not qualify as excused absences. There are no rehearsals on Wednesdays to allow students to attend review sessions, doctor's appointments, and any other engagements. Please forward a copy of the season schedule to your employer now. All excused absences must be pre-approved at least two weeks in advance of the anticipated conflict.

Pre-season activities - Excused absences will not affect a student's marching status in terms of attendance, but these absences could impair the student's ability to maintain their musical and marching skills at the same level as their peers; this may impact their marching status. Students who miss pre-season activities must learn what they have missed on their own time in order to maintain their marching skills.

Season activities - Any number of excused absences during the regular season may affect a student's marching status with regards to future performances. Students that are unable to attend even one day of the *Marching Warriors Camp* are highly discouraged from participation in the marching band. The importance of the drill and music rehearsals that occur during *Marching Warriors Camp* is irreplaceable.

Some commonly excused absences have included:

- Weddings
- Religious events
- Funerals/Death in the family
- Personal illness

Unexcused absences

Any unexcused absences from a Marching Warriors event will likely result in the student's immediate suspension from upcoming performances, and endanger their participation in the Marching Warriors.

Student Leaders

Because of the increased role and visibility of student leaders, their absence from any Marching Warriors activity (Pre-season and Season) could impact their status as a student leader as well as membership in the band.