



CABRILLO HIGH SCHOOL
INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC

CONQUISTADOR MARCHING BAND
HANDBOOK
2023

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Introduction

Welcome to our band family in the Cabrillo High School Instrumental Music Department. We're excited to have you be a part of us. We believe that everyone is a musician. We believe that music is an expression of our humanity. We believe that loving what you do enables success, not the other way around. We welcome you on this journey of discovery that we all get to go on together.

What is the Conquistador Marching Band?

The Conquistador Marching Band is one of the most accomplished, most awarded, and most artistic marching bands in the state of California. Each year we design and perform an original field show for the home football crowd and at Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association competitions. We have placed in the top twelve bands in our division of SCSBOA every year since 2015, earning 5 Gold, Bronze, or Silver medals in that time.

We see marching band as musical theater on a football field. While we love pumping up the crowd at home football games, our primary focus is on creating and performing our competitive field show with artistry and passion.

How to Apply For and Earn a Role in Marching Band

Band Camp is both training for and the audition for a role in Marching Band.

Students register for Band Camp at conqmusic.com All the dates, times, and details, including this packet, can be found there too.

- 1. Attend every day of band camp** prepared with the proper supplies, eager to grow, and with a positive attitude.
- 2. Earn your role at Band Camp.** Show us you have what it takes to be successful in Marching Band. Membership in marching band is awarded based on spots available and individual performance in the first few days of band camp.

Can I Participate in Marching Band and Another Sport or Activity at Cabrillo?

Yes, students can take part in marching band and another activity, but there are some conditions and serious words of caution in this case. If you are participating in another sport, you must still be able to participate fully in marching band. You must still attend all rehearsals and performances. For after school rehearsals, time compromises are necessary for both activities as rehearsals often overlap with practices, but our Saturday rehearsals and performances **cannot and must not** be compromised.

Keep in mind the fact that students have limited time and energy. It's difficult to work at extreme levels of physical activity in a sport and then come to marching band and have to not only expend the same energy but to stand up for 3 1/2 hours. This can be exhausting.

Second, marching band rehearsal ends at 6:30. Add in dinner and homework afterward and there is very little if any downtime. Again, this is exhausting mentally and physically.

If a student still wants to participate in multiple activities after keeping the above in mind, then they must get a full schedule of the other sport immediately and check it against the band calendar on conqmusic.com for conflicts. It is up to the student to work out any necessary time compromises for after school rehearsals and sports practices. Usually this involves leaving another practice early and coming to ours a little late. Most campus activities and sports have a precedent set for this. Saturday rehearsals and performances will not be allowed to be compromised.

Can I Participate in Marching Band and have a job.

Yes, but students **MUST** schedule their work hours around marching band, including all weekday and Saturday rehearsals and **ALL** performances. We do not compromise with students' work schedules. It is the responsibility of the student to inform their employer in advance of this policy. Getting called in during marching band time is not acceptable. Missing anything marching band related for work is not acceptable. Violating this policy is grounds for removal from the Marching Band.

Requirements and Expectations of Students

1. All members of the marching band must understand that they are an integral part of the whole group. There are no minor parts. Your actions and efforts both on and off the field affect all of us. Consider this when choosing how to conduct yourself at all times.
2. All students must attend **all** rehearsals and performances. If you cannot commit to this, do not commit to Marching Band.
3. Know your part. Know your work. Know your drill. Know your roll.
4. Commit to creating the experience for yourself. No person can make marching band fun or successful for you, except you.
5. Be responsible for your schedule. Find potential conflicts now and solve problems in advance.

Expectations of Parents

1. Support your students in this challenging endeavor by taking an active interest in it. Ask your child how rehearsal was today. Come to performances.
2. If you can, volunteer. We have a very active group of parents and we can always use more help.
3. Support our schedule by planning family events around rehearsals and performances. Do not schedule appointments that conflict with rehearsals or performances.
4. Never use denial of participation as a punishment. "You cannot go to band today because..." hurts the group more than it does your child.

What to Bring to Band Camp

1. Clothing appropriate for outdoor exercise, appropriate for the weather. **No jeans.** Students not dressed appropriately will be sent home to change.
2. Athletic Shoes. You will be on your feet ALL DAY. **No boots or sandals.** Students without appropriate footwear will be sent home to change.
3. Sunscreen.
4. A large, insulated water bottle. We will not provide bottled water.
5. A small towel, rag or handkerchief to wet and wear around the neck. It helps keep you cool outside. This is more important than you may think.
6. A healthy lunch or lunch money. Students will have 90 minutes for lunch. Lunch is not provided. The closest food is the Village Market and Subway.
7. A three ring binder with sheet protectors.
8. A pencil or 3 in the binder.
9. Percussionists: Bring earplugs. A jar of the cheap foam kind from the pharmacy are perfect. Earbuds are not acceptable as they are not designed to protect from noise.

How We Will Communicate with Parents and Students

Our primary method of communication is an app called BAND.

Yes, it's an app called BAND, and the groups within in are called BANDS, just to make it as confusing as possible... You know, for fun.

BAND is similar to Remind, but everything is in the app rather than over text messages and communication can be two way, whole group and private. This allows vital information to be sent to everyone at the same time, questions to be asked and answered by parents and students, and everyone can communicate directly with the director when necessary.

It is crucial that all students and parents have this app downloaded.

How to get and join the BAND app.

1. Download BAND and create an account here:

<https://band.us/en> - Or get it on the Apple or Google App Stores

2. Join the 2023 Conquistador Marching Band BAND group

Click the link or scan the QR code:

<https://band.us/n/adad9cTd3bP1m>



Neither works for you? Email Mr. O at olivieri.garson@lUSD.org and I'll send you an invite code.

Schedules

The most updated schedule can always be found at conqmusic.com

Band Camp schedule:

July 31 - August 4 9am-6pm All Students. 90 minute lunch on your own.
August 7-11 9am-6pm All Students
Aug 11 6pm Pot Luck and performance.
Students will be allowed time to attend Cabrillo Registration and Conq Camp.

After School Rehearsal Schedule during the school year:

Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays 4:00 – 6:30pm
No Friday rehearsals on football game days.

Weekend Rehearsals:

September 2nd 9am-6pm
September 16th 9am-6pm
September 30th 9am-6pm
Veterans Day Rehearsal and Performance 9am-8pm (Performance at 7pm)

Competitions:

All are all-day with itineraries available ~1 week before.
Transportation provided by LUSD.

October 21st	Simi Valley High School
October 28th	Grover Cleveland High School
November 4th	Hart Rampage OR Oxnard High School
November 11	SCSBOA Prelims
November 18	SCSBOA Championships

Football Games

TBA When known.

Absence Policy

Joining marching band is making a commitment to marching band. If you are not prepared to commit to our schedule and our expectations, do not commit to marching band.

People get sick. Funerals, unfortunately, happen. Last minute emergencies happen, and we get it, but you **MUST** communicate with us as soon as is possible. If you're too sick to come to school you're too sick to come to marching band rehearsal. If you went to school, you're expected at marching band rehearsal. Please, none of the, "I'm tired and my tummy hurts." Me too.

Fundraising

The Conquistador Marching Band is funded by the fundraising efforts of its members and their parents, donations, and support from the school district.

Marching band is a VERY expensive endeavor. Even with support from the school district we as a group need to fundraise in order to put on the elaborate and professionally designed shows that we do. Our group fundraising efforts will pay for props, equipment, costumes, uniforms, flags, sets, food, and many other necessities for our show and season.

We ask for your help in funding this experience through participation in fundraisers and we do accept donations. We will set group fundraiser goals throughout the season and as a group, we will meet them.

Please keep in mind that all participation in fundraisers and donations are purely voluntary and no student will ever be denied participation in this group for lack of a donation or participation in fundraisers.

Questions and How to Contact Mr. Olivieri

Any questions, comments, concerns, or epiphanies? Please contact me any time by private message on the BAND app or by email at olivieri.garson@lUSD.org.

Please do not under any circumstances attempt to call me at the school. I will not get the message in a timely manner and will probably not be able to respond.

If we need to talk I will happily give you my cell phone number.