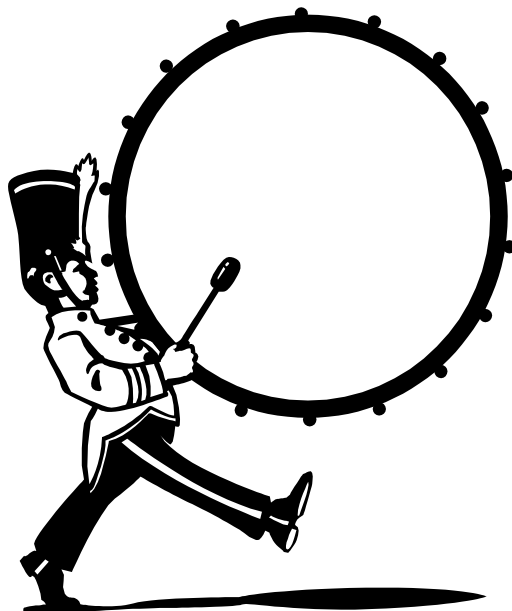


Coloma Community Schools
Marching Band
Handbook



2011-2012



Coloma Bands

April 20, 2011

Dear Band Students and Parents,

As we end this school year, it is time to begin planning for the 2011 Comet Marching Band. This Marching Band Handbook is designed to answer any questions you may have about marching band season.

This fall our show will be *Music of: Earth, Wind, & Fire*. Included in this handbook is the calendar for the season. Please note that pre-camp rehearsals, band camp, parades, and football games are all required. It is a requirement that to participate in marching band that all HS Marching Band Students attend the pre-camp rehearsals and band camp.

You have invested much time and hard work into preparing for this musical opportunity. The Coloma Band Program will continue the goal to “strive for excellence” and to be a program of quality with many rewards to offer. If you have further questions please do not hesitate to call Mrs. Thomas at 468-2400, ext. 29.

Please read through this handbook and return the signature form at the end of the handbook as soon as possible. **The Marching Band Commitment Form and fee must be returned by Friday, May 20th.** Thank you! I am looking forward to the very exciting and successful marching band season. Let's continue to strive for excellence!

Musically,

Cheryl S. Thomas
Director of Bands
CHS: 468-2400, ext. 29
colomaband@gmail.com

Christopher Keech
Band Assistant
CHS: 468-2400, ext. 29

The good of the many outweighs the good of the one.

COLOMA HIGH SCHOOL **BAND HANDBOOK**

FORWARD

In order to continually improve the quality of our instrumental music program, it is essential that every band member acquaint him/herself with this handbook; carefully reading the rules, regulations, and expectations of the band organization. This will help prepare you for the responsibilities you have accepted as a band member. When a question arises, consult your handbook. It has been developed to assist you. If you need further assistance, consult the Band Director.

SPECIAL NOTE TO PARENTS AND STUDENTS

When this school year begins there is such a shock of coordinating the family schedules and school/community events. Every attempt was made to be as specific as possible to help you plan your family calendars. Please make sure you have received this calendar (attached). Many questions arise regarding attendance during the year and during marching season because there are so many events happening. I want to take a moment and clarify my expectations.

1. Attendance is vital to the success of this program and a portion of each student's grade is their attendance record. When a student is absent in band, unlike many other classes, the entire section of students must adjust and make changes. It does not only affect the individual, but actually the entire group. We cannot have holes on the marching drill/show.
2. Any absence from a performance must be handled through parental contact to Mrs. Thomas directly. Please contact me before the absence. After-the-fact excuses are understandable only in extreme situations. As stated in our Band Handbook "prior excused absences from a performance that has been approved by the director in advance or due to illness or emergency will not affect your grade if arrangements are made with the Director to make up the time missed in an appropriate manner. This must be completed within the 6-week (1/2 trimester) of the absence." If you have any questions, please feel free to call me.
3. Students are expected to be at all rehearsals. Because of the early date of this calendar, please schedule doctor appointments, drivers ed., senior pictures, work, test re-takes, etc., on a day that does not conflict with rehearsals or band camp. Some situations regarding illness and doctor appointments are clearly unavoidable, but please use discretion when missing a rehearsal and contact me as soon as possible.
1. Coloma athletic events will often conflict and I try very hard to cooperate with other coaches so that the students can do multiple activities. It is not my desire to put the student in the middle of a "tug-of-war" situation between adults. In the past I have used the following policy with coaches and, for the most part, this has worked well—flexibility and genuine concern for the student must be present from all sides! If a band rehearsal and an athletic practice occur at the same time, the student needs to be at band because they are receiving a grade for their attendance and it is an extension of the class. If there is a game on the day of a rehearsal, they are excused from my rehearsal. Please extend to me the courtesy of giving me potential conflicts at the beginning of your season. Performance and game conflicts will be dealt with on a case by case basis.
 - a. I will continue to excuse athletes up to 30 minutes late to evening rehearsals. They must make an effort to be at evening rehearsal by 6:30 p.m. Varsity Football players will continue to play with the football team (excused from band) and Varsity Cheerleaders will continue to perform with the band at halftime.

GRADING POLICY

HIGH SCHOOL (9-12th grade)

The teacher will act as a guide for setting student objectives. The instructor will set specific listening, written, and performance objectives. Other group and individual goals will be set in a cooperative manner (student with student, and student with teacher). Grades are weighted and based on the following:

40% Performance

Standard performance points: *300 points each performance: all home football games; Parades (Glad-Peach [2], Homecoming, St. Patrick's, & Blossomtime); Winter Concert, Pre-Festival Concert, & Spring Concert.

Festival performance points: *500 points each (District Marching Band Festival, District Band & Orchestra Festival, State Band & Orchestra Festival; Marching Band Invitationals).

30% Daily Participation Points – *10 points daily; *100 points for evening rehearsals

Student must be in attendance, be attentive, working, with all materials, actively seeking to improve – this will include marching style as well as playing ability. Lack of necessary materials will result in loss of participation points for that day (including appropriate footwear- NO FLIP FLOPS OR SANDALS WHILE MARCHING).

30% Written & Playing Evaluation Points

Students will be evaluated on their preparation on both playing and written tests, in addition to their efforts both in and out of the classroom. This includes following directions and rehearsal etiquette. Individual performance examinations will include-scales, sight-reading, prepared etudes, musical studies, etc. Playing tests will be judged according to standards and indicators outlined on the Instrumental Solo and Ensemble Adjudication sheet. Marching grades will be based on music memorization (each piece is 100 points – halftime music, fight song, and National Anthem). Stand cheers are not required to be memorized. This portion of the grade also includes returning slips (reminders of performances, etc.).

**Points will be deducted for lack of materials-instrument, music, pencil; tardiness; etc.*

High School Final Exams will be a performance or written final during the scheduled exam period

ATTENDANCE POLICY

- I. *Attendance* – Attendance at all performances is required.
 - *Excused absences* – are for family emergencies & illness ONLY. A phone call from a parent/guardian prior to the start of the event is required (468-2400, ext. 29-leave a message). It is the student's responsibility to make up work when they are absent from a rehearsal. If the work is not completed by the guidelines stated in the Student School Handbook, then the absence shall be considered unexcused.
 - *Pre-excused absences* – must be listed on the commitment form.
 - *Excused Absences and Pre-Excused Absences from performances will allow students to make up performance points* by an equal experience to what the student will have missed. (i.e.—musical community service). It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements for make-up points. Three hours of “musical community service” for each missed parade or football performance. Five hours of “musical community service” for each missed concert of competition.

All other absences from performances-are considered unexcused and no makeup points are allowed.

Students with any unexcused performance absence throughout the school year will not receive an award at the end of the year (pin, letter, chevron, and/or BLANKET). Also, students with less than a minimum 3.0 grade point in all trimesters of band while in the 9th through 12th grade will NOT receive an award at the end of the year (pin, letter, chevron, and/or BLANKET).

Please note that I do not accept verbal excuses – too many students per day!!

BAND CAMP INFORMATION

1. Wear comfortable clothes and athletic-type shoes. Dark colors absorb sunlight; so wear light colors to keep your body cooler. **NO SANDALS!** *We are not at the beach!*
2. Bring a pencil and a highlighter for marking music and drill. *Please be prepared!*
3. Wear sunscreen! *This is not the week to get burned!*
4. You will need a lyre and flip folder for your instrument. *Flip folders hold your music.*
5. Bring a water bottle. *We supply Gatorade & water on breaks, but you might want your own.*
6. Please be on time. *“To be early is to be on time, to be on time is to be late.”*
7. Be excited-this is going to be the best marching season yet! *I say this every year, but it’s true!!*

INSTRUMENTS, EQUIPMENT, & MUSIC

- School owned instruments are issued at the first pre-camp rehearsal, unless you checked it out at the end of the school year. Please fill out the School Instrument Contract on the back page if you would like to check out an instrument for the summer.
- Drummers are required to pay for their own sticks (marching sticks-snare, tenor, and bass); drum keys and mallets (if necessary). Price list for sticks will be available at the first Pre-Camp Music Rehearsal and included in the summer mailing (expect \$10-\$35, depending on the sticks).
- Lyres & music flip folders may be purchased at the pre-camp rehearsals.

UNIFORMS

GLAD-PEACH PARADES & 1st FOOTBALL GAME: Band Show t-shirt (ordered at Pre-Camp rehearsals; information will be mailed this summer), khaki shorts/pants/capri pants, white socks, and athletic shoes. Please no excessive make-up, jewelry, funky socks, belts, etc. Please keep belts to brown or black only. Long hair must be pulled up.

If there is any difficulty in finding these items, please ask Mrs. Thomas as soon as possible.

**Incoming 9th grade band students are required to purchase black marching shoes. New color guard members are required to purchase guard shoes. These shoes are part of the Marching Band Uniform. This information will be sent in the summer mailing and orders will be taken at the Pre-Camp Rehearsals. Please do not purchase shoes until the Pre-Camp Rehearsals. If you cannot afford these items, please notify Mrs. Thomas ASAP.

MARCHING BAND UNIFORM:

Students must also wear **BLACK SOCKS, BLACK MARCHING SHOES, & BLACK GLOVES** (shoes & gloves will be ordered during band camp). Students must wear a t-shirt and shorts under the uniform! **NO JEANS!**

The marching band uniforms are stored at the HS band room (jackets, pants, & hat). Each student will be fitted for a uniform during band camp & evening rehearsals before school starts. Seniors must check out their uniform with Mrs. Thomas prior to borrowing it for senior pictures.

Shoes-\$19.00

Gloves-\$2.00

Marching Band Show Shirt-approx. \$10.00

COLOR GUARD UNIFORM: green/gold tunic, black jumpsuit, black socks, black guard shoes (ordered during band camp). Show costumes & props are determined by the band director & color guard instructors. Car washes and pop can drives will be coordinated (by Mrs. Thomas) to raise funds for color guard.

Color Guard Shoes-\$23.00

Marching Band Show Shirt-approx. \$10.00

BAND CAMP FEE

The fee for Band Camp is \$25. Checks are payable to Coloma Band Boosters. Money is due Friday, May 20th. This money will be used to purchase snacks, pizza, subs, ice, cups, popsicles, and drinks during band camp and throughout the marching season. Please contact Mrs. Thomas if you cannot afford the fee.

Coloma School Owned Instrument Student Usage Contract

(Please fill out if you would like to check out an instrument for the summer. Return by May 20)

Date: _____

Student's Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Student's Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Instrument: _____ Brand: _____

Serial Number: _____ Case Number: _____

Mouthpiece #: _____ Ligature: _____ Strap: _____

Condition: (Accessories, general condition, etc.)

I hereby agree that upon accepting the loan of the above, cited instrument, which is property of the Coloma Band Program, I am fully responsible for the instrument while it is in my care. In the event of loss, destruction, or unreasonable damage to the instrument (on purpose or accidental), I am fully responsible for its replacement (or repair) cost with an instrument selected by the band program of comparable or better quality. I understand that the school will cover basic maintenance of the instrument(s). I am also responsible for replacing lost or broken mouthpieces.

I understand that this loan begins May 2011, and I will return the instrument by the end of the next school year. I also understand that if I do not return the instrument, Mrs. Thomas will call the police and file charges for stealing. I further understand that I am the only person allowed to use the instrument.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Date out: _____

Date due: _____

COLOMA BAND SCHEDULE 2011-2012

Mon., July 18, 6-7 p.m.—Student Leadership Meeting, HS Band Room (DM, SL, DI, CG Capt.)
Mon., July 18, 7-9 p.m.—Pre-Camp Band Rehearsal, HS Band Room (Grades 9-12)
Mon., July 25, 7-9 p.m.—Pre-Camp Band Rehearsal, HS Band Room (Grades 9-12)
Fri., July 29, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.—Pre-Camp Rehearsal, HS Band Room (all 9th graders, percussion, color guard, DM, DI, & SL)
Mon., Aug. 1-Fri., Aug. 5, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.—BAND CAMP, HS Band Room/Practice Field (Grades 9-12)
Fri., Aug. 5, 7 p.m.—Glad Peach Youth Parade, (Grades 9-12)
Sat., Aug. 6, noon—Glad Peach Parade, (Grades 9-12)
Mon., Aug. 8, 6-9 p.m.—Band Rehearsal, HS Practice Field (Grades 9-12)
Mon., Aug. 15, 6-9 p.m.—Band Rehearsal, HS Practice Field (Grades 9-12)
Mon., Aug. 22, 6-9 p.m.—Band Rehearsal, HS Practice Field (Grades 9-12)
Mon., Aug. 29, 6-9 p.m.—Band Rehearsal, HS Practice Field (Grades 9-12)
Wed., Aug. 31, 5 p.m.—Beginning Band Instrument Rental, CMS Band Room (5th Grade)
Thurs., Sept. 1, 7 p.m.—Football Game (report to HS band room by 5:45 p.m.; Grades 9-12)
Tues., Sept. 6, 6-9 p.m.—Band Rehearsal, HS Football Field, (Grades 9-12)
Tues., Sept. 13, 6-9 p.m.—Band Rehearsal, HS Football Field, (Grades 9-12)
Mon., Sept. 19, 7 p.m.—Band Booster Meeting, HS Band Room
Tues., Sept. 20, 6-9 p.m.—Band Rehearsal, HS Football Field, (Grades 9-12)
Tues., Sept. 27, 6-9 p.m.—Band Rehearsal, HS Football Field, (Grades 9-12)
Fri., Sept. 30, 7 p.m.—Football Game (Grades 6, & 9-12; Band Buddies)
Sat., Oct. 1, All Day—Gull Lake Invitational (Gull Lake, MI), (Grades 9-12)
Tues., Oct. 4, 6-9 p.m.—Band Rehearsal, HS Football Field, (Grades 9-12)
Fri., Oct. 7, 5 p.m.—Homecoming Parade (time-TBA; Line-up at the fire station; Grades 9-12)
Fri., Oct. 7, 7 p.m.—Football Game (Grades 7-12; Combined performance 7/8 band & HS band) (Homecoming)
Sat., Oct. 8, All Day—Lakeshore Invitational (Stevensville, MI), (Grades 9-12)
Tues., Oct. 11, 6-9 p.m.—Band Rehearsal, HS Football Field, (Grades 9-12)
Wed., Oct. 12, (afternoon to evening)—Marching Festival, Paw Paw HS or Niles HS, (Grades 9-12)
Tues., Oct. 18, 6-9 p.m. — Band Rehearsal, HS Football Field, (Grades 9-12)
Fri., Oct. 21, 7 p.m.—Football Game (report to HS band room by 5:45 p.m.; Grades 9-12, Parent’s Night-Seniors)
Mon., Oct. 24, 7 p.m.—Beginning Band Concert, MS Gym (5th Gr.) (6:30 p.m.—Parent Mtg. & 5th gr. report time)
Sat., Oct. 29, all day—WMU Band Day?, Grades 9-12, optional
Sat. & Sun., Oct. 29 & 30, all day—All-State Auditions, South Haven HS, (Grades 7-12)
Wed., Nov. 16, Fri/Sat., Nov. 18/19, All-Star Band, Edwardsburg HS (Gr. 9-12) (HS, audition only, optional)
Mon., Nov. 21, 7 p.m.—Band Booster Meeting, HS Band Room
Sat., Dec. 3, MS Solo & Ensemble at Edwardsburg (7&8th grade only, optional)
Wed., Dec. 14—Winter Band Concerts; 5th & 6th at 6 p.m.; 7/8th & HS Band at 7 p.m.; HS Gym, (Grades 5-12)
Tues., Jan. 17, 7 p.m.—Band Booster Meeting, HS Band Room
Sat., Feb. 11, High School District Solo/Ensemble Festival at SMC (Grades 9-12, optional)
Wed., Feb. 22, 7 p.m.—Pre-Festival Concert, HS Gym (Grades 7-12)
Mon.-Fri., March 5-9—District Band Festival at LMC, date and time TBA (Grades 7-12)
Sat., March 17, Evening—St. Patrick’s Parade, Downtown Coloma, TBA
Mon., March 19, 7 p.m.—Band Booster Meeting, HS Band Room
Sat., March 24, HS State Solo/Ensemble Festival, Grand Haven HS, (Grades 9-12, optional)
Wed., March 28—Southwestern Michigan MS Honors Band, All Day, Andrews University (nominated 8th graders)
Thurs., March 29—HS band leaves for Disney (March 29-Apr. 3)
Thurs., April 12, All Day—Lakeland Fine Arts Festival, Edwardsburg (Grades 9-12)
Tuesday, April 17, Afternoon & Evening—HS Jazz Festival (members of the HS Jazz Band; at Dowagiac MS)
Sat., April 21, MS Solo & Ensemble Festival at SMC (7&8th grade only, optional)
Sat., May 5, morning & afternoon—Blossomtime Parade (Grades 9-12)
Wed., May 16,—Spring Band Concerts; 5th & 6th at 6 p.m.; 7/8th & HS at 7 p.m.; HS Gym (Grades 5-12)
Mon., May 21, 7 p.m.—Band Booster Meeting, HS Band Room
Sun., June 3, 1:30 p.m., Graduation, HS Gym (Grades 9-12) (300 points; FINAL EXAM)
BAND CAMP 2012: July 30-Aug. 3, 2012 (Grades 9-12)

*****ALL DATES ARE REQUIRED, UNLESS LISTED OTHERWISE*****

Pre-Camp Music Rehearsals may only be excused if list them on the Commitment Form. I will be flexible with these dates only.

Contact your employer in advance with all marching band dates. Work is not an excuse.