

2009

Edgewood High School

Marching Band

Handbook



Contact Information. (513-867-7428, ext. 2416) arnoldjp@edgewood.k12.oh.us

July 30th, 2009

On behalf of the band staff of the Edgewood Marching Cougars, we are excited to begin a new season! This year's show theme is "Salute to Santana," featuring the music of rock legend Carlos Santana. It is an exciting and fun show. This year's staff is top-notch. We have a new Assistant Band Director, Mr. Nick Fields, who will also be teaching music at Edgewood Middle School. Mr. Fields is a talented percussionist and a great addition to the staff. We also have a new guard instructor, Julia Seger. Julia is also a talented dancer and student at the College of Mount St. Joseph in Cincinnati. We have a great staff this year and we are excited about working with your children.

The Edgewood Marching Cougars will perform for both home and away football games and at Midstates Band competitions. In November, we will return to Indianapolis to perform at the Bands of America Grand Nationals Band Competition. The performance will be held in the Lucas Oil Stadium on November 12th. Please plan to attend these performances and to cheer us on! Thanks for in advance for your support. It is going to be an awesome year!

Sincerely,

Jon Arnold
Director of Bands
Edgewood High School

Important Dates and Practice Schedule

Parent Meeting

7 p.m. Thursday July 30 in the EHS auditorium. This meeting is mandatory for parents. All important information and forms will be distributed and discussed at this meeting.

Band Registration

Will be from 5:30-6 p.m. on **Monday August 3rd**. All band forms and band fees are due at this time. Band fees are \$200. Make checks payable to Edgewood Band Boosters. **(All of these items must be taken care of before your child is allowed to participate in the first rehearsal.)**

Shoe Fitting

Wednesday August 5th @ 5:30 p.m. Cost for shoes is \$30.00. Please make checks payable to RRR Band Accessories.

Band Camp

(8/10-8/13) Band Camp will be at EHS from 2-9 p.m. Students will need to pack a lunch for each day of band camp. Parents may drop off food at 5 p.m. Students will **not** be permitted to leave to get food.

Band Pictures

Friday August 14th at 11 am. Students should report to the high school band room at 10:15am to get dressed.

Regular Band Practices: Once school starts, practice will be from 3-5 p.m. Monday-Thursday.

2009 Marching Cougars Staff

Director

Jon Arnold

Assistant Director

Nick Fields

Colorguard

Julia Seger

Visual Design

Kendra Wendeln

MARCHING BAND POLICIES

Attendance Policy

All rehearsals and performances are mandatory. Attendance will be taken at all rehearsals and performances.

1. Written excuses signed by a parent or guardian are required before or immediately following an absence. Students need to present a note from their parents or guardian to be excused for illness or family emergencies. (e-mail Mr. Arnold-arnoldjp@edgewood.k12.oh.us with notification of any absences.)
2. All working students should provide their employers with the summer and fall schedules, thus providing a means of eliminating schedule conflicts.
3. Conflicts with other school organizations will be taken into consideration provided: A) The directors are informed in writing, by the student, one week in advance of the conflict. B) The student must be in good standing according to the rules and regulations of the organization.
4. An unexcused absence from a rehearsal, may result in the loss of position or suspension for the upcoming weekend performance.

SPECIAL NOTE: Unexcused absences may result in the loss of your position, suspension and/or expulsion from the group at the discretion of the director.

The goal of our attendance policy is to provide information to students, parents, and directors when there is an attendance problem. The safety and security of our members are a priority.

Code of Conduct

A firm and fair policy of enforcement is necessary to uphold the regulations and standards of the Music Department. All band members shall abide by a Code of Conduct, which will earn them the honor and respect that participation in the Extra Curricular Music Program. Any conduct that results in dishonor to the musician, the Marching Band or the school will not be tolerated. Acts of unacceptable conduct include but are not limited to theft, vandalism, disrespect, or violation of law. Students participating in the Marching Band must conduct themselves as mature young men and women. Participation in extra curricular programs is a privilege. Any band member whose conduct could be construed to reflect discredit upon the band and/or the school, will be subject to disciplinary action as determined by the music staff and/or administration.

Marching Band Expectations

1. Treat all members with mutual respect.
2. Be punctual and in your designated area at all times. Being “On time” in band language means ten minutes prior to the scheduled starting time.
3. Profanity/disrespect will not be tolerated at any time.
4. It is the responsibility of each member to have all equipment and other pertinent items at all rehearsals (drill books, music, pencils, etc.) Likewise, it is just as important to make sure everything is put away and stored in its proper place after rehearsal.

Expectations in the stands during a football game:

The band is a vital part of school spirit at football games. Watch the game and your director because things happen quickly. Be prepared to play the “Fight Song” after each touchdown.

Rules while in the stands:

- Play your instrument only when the entire band plays. Stay in your section at all times!!!
- The bandstand is for band members only. Do not invite your friends to sit with you in the stand or enter the end zone area at any time.
- Break comes in the third quarter.
- At the end of third quarter, you should be in your seat ready to play. If anyone is late, they will sit during third quarter of the next game.
- Take care of your instrument to prevent damage.
- Make a good impression. Remember, you are wearing an Edgewood uniform, which stands for your school and community.
- You must have ALL of your music in your own personal flip folder with you at each game.

Expectations for Bus Trips:

- Keep the bus clean; pick up and properly dispose of all trash.
- Maintain silence at railroad crossings
- Use moderation in talking and singing.
- Hands and arms must remain inside the bus at all times.
- Thank and listen to your bus drivers and chaperones.
- Stay seated while the bus is moving.
- Do not board or load equipment on the bus until asked to do so.
- Stay on the bus until asked to unload.
- Leave windows up when leaving away football games unless told otherwise.
- You must travel on the bus to all engagements.
- You may go home with your parents providing the director has written permission from your parent/guardian and speaks with your parent/guardian at the event.
- Band members must not play instruments near unloading area.

Practice Clothing

1. Tennis shoes only (canvas or leather). No sandals, dress, or street shoes. (The need for freedom and flexibility in the ankle along with the placement of the heels and toes together is critical!)
2. Shorts, sweats, jeans, must not be binding.
3. Always wear socks for good personal hygiene to avoid foot injury such as blisters.
4. Any non-binding shirt is preferred for marching activities.
5. Due to the risk of personal injury, no dangling jewelry (i.e. earrings) will be permitted at any time.

GUARD MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE: Your hair must be pulled back and out of your face. Make sure this is done before practice. (This is recommended for any band member who has longer than shoulder length hair.)

PROCEDURES

Discipline Procedure

1. Records will be kept concerning all violations of the rules in this handbook. Should it be necessary to reprimand any student for violation of these rules, we will follow these guidelines:
 - A. The **first** violation of any rule will result in a verbal warning.
 - B. The **second** violation of any rule will result in a verbal warning and an extra duty assignment handed out by the directors.
 - C. The **third** violation of any rule will result in a verbal warning and an extra duty assignment handed out by the directors, and the loss of third quarter privilege.
 - D. The **fourth** violation of any rule will result in the suspension from a performance (i.e. pre-game, half-time, or contest).
 - E. The **fifth** violation of any rule will result in the loss of position, and suspension or expulsion from the group.

(Note: a violation that is considered severe will bypass the above steps and be handled immediately by directors and school administration).

Direct communication with a student's parents will occur at the second step and will continue through the fifth step. We believe open communication with parents is an essential part of the success of the student in our organization.

2. In order to establish an organization with pride, unity, and self-discipline, we must enforce the rules set forth by the directors and members of this organization. Every effort will be made to be fair and just with all members.

Should any student or parent have a question concerning any disciplinary action, contact the director immediately.

*During third quarter of the football games, band members are allowed to get refreshments and meet with friends. If a student loses third quarter privileges, he/she must sit in the bleachers for the duration of third quarter at the next football game.

Uniform Inspection

Prior to performances, members must pass through an inspection of their uniform and equipment. This is done so we can have the best appearance possible, to develop good personal habits, and pride. The following criteria have been established for achieving a clean and uniform look in our band:

1. No jewelry is to be worn while in uniform.
2. No nail polish is to be worn while in uniform.
3. A short sleeved shirt (blue band shirt for football games and competition shirt for competitions) must be worn under the uniform coat.
4. Black socks must be worn while in uniform.
5. Hair must not cover the collar when hats are worn. Any member with long hair must pin their hair up.
6. All uniform parts must be worn properly.
7. When not performing, but still in uniform, all members may remove only gloves and hats unless the directors issue another directive.

Color Guard Uniforms

The color guard's marching uniform tends to change each year by what the show design and theme requires. Uniform items color guard members purchase will remain their property at the end of the season. The cost for guard uniforms varies from year to year.

Marching Band Uniforms

Summer marching uniforms consist of blue band t-shirts (included in band fee), khaki shorts, white socks and white tennis shoes. The shoes and socks are the student's responsibility to obtain before the first summer performance. We will wear blue band shirts and khaki shorts to the first football game.

The marching band uniforms are provided for each student by the band. The students should wear either their football or competition band shirts and shorts under their uniforms. This makes dressing much easier because there is no privacy when changing into uniforms. At competitions dressing is done out in the parking lot and in the band room for football games.

Tour Shirts

Each student will be provided with a competition tour shirt. Each year there is a new tour shirt representing the show that is being performed that year. Students are expected to wear their tour shirts when they travel to competitions so when they are out of uniform it is easy for staff and chaperones to spot Edgewood students. Please remind your student to always wear their tour shirt to competitions.

Chaperones

These are the parents that travel with the students every time they leave the school, primarily for football games and competitions. The majority of chaperoning opportunities occur during Marching Band season but there are also several opportunities during Concert Band season when the band travels to OMEA Adjudicated Events in the spring.

Communication

The band tries very hard to keep the lines of communication open. The main avenues are:

1. Website – www.edgewoodband.com Updates from the directors and the boosters will be posted on the link. Please check out our site often.
2. Email – We maintain a database of e-mails for distribution of all information.
- 3.. Students - all pertinent information is communicated to your students either verbally or with a flier. This, at times, is the least reliable means of getting information, so prior to big events (competitions, trips, etc.) you may want to ask your student if information has been sent home with them or check the website.

Questions and/or concerns should be communicated **first** to the director.

Marching Band Practices

Practice will be Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3-5 p.m. After school rehearsals are very important. They allow the students to continue to refine and polish the music and drill learned during band camp. Drill and music are constantly being refined/changed to make the show the best it can possibly be, so please ensure that your student regularly attends.

Football Games

EHS Marching Band performs at every home football game and away games. They perform portions of, or sometimes the entire Marching Band Show at halftime of the game. This is always an opportunity to work on perfecting the show and learning to perform for an audience. Every student is required to attend these games and any absence needs to be discussed with the director. During the game the band sits together, plays pep tunes, and has a lot of fun. They perform during half time and then get the third quarter off to get refreshments, visit friends, and relax. All students remain in their uniforms during the **entire** game. Students should bring 2 snacks to each home football game. Things like snack cakes, cookies and chips would be appropriate.

Band Contest/Performances

Parents and families are invited and encouraged to attend any and all performances. We try to make it a practice to sit as a group at a contest or performance to cheer our students on. Nothing is better for the students than to give their best performance and get a standing ovation from the parents acknowledging all their hard work. Maps or directions to competitions will be available several days prior and are usually e-mailed, posted on the website and printed for your student to bring home.

Practice/Performance Schedule

A lot of time is spent putting a band schedule together deciding all dates and times up front so students and parents can plan accordingly, and we endeavor to change the schedule as seldom as possible. A few reasons for schedule changes are:

- a) a competition/game has been canceled or rescheduled which is out of the director's control
- b) new opportunities to showcase the student's talents become available after the schedule is published

TBA Times

Competitions do not inform the directors of their performance time until about a week before the performance. Therefore, the "big picture" schedule will indicate the day to keep open and the specific times will be passed on to the students as soon as the director is able. This can be frustrating for overall scheduling for families but it is out of the director's control.

Rule of Thumb: If the day is scheduled for a Band Competition, keep the entire day open.

Schedules for the TBA performances are almost always available one week prior to the performance and will be communicated via the band email database, website and copies are provided to the students.

Band Boosters

The Edgewood Band Boosters is a dedicated hardworking group that helps the band staff with many activities during the year. We encourage you to attend at least one meeting this year. We need your help and support! I would like to see each parent volunteer for at least 2 events this year. Please complete a volunteer form and return it to me as soon as possible.

Mission Statement of The Edgewood Band Boosters

The Edgewood Band Boosters Association is comprised of members of our community that wish to contribute to the educational experience of students in the Edgewood City School District. Any adult is welcome to join the Band Boosters. Voting members are restricted to those that have attended at least two meetings in the prior 12 months. Executive Board members are elected at the spring meeting and are restricted to Booster members that have children participating in at least one Band Booster supported music/guard group. We work throughout the year raising funds for the purchase of music, instruments, presentation equipment and supplies, uniforms, costumes and props, instrument repairs, and academic tutoring of the musician/students from the Edgewood City School District. Our goal is to help our student/musicians gain confidence, maturity, team building and academic success through music.

All persons interested in helping us to achieve these goals are invited to become members of the Edgewood Band Boosters Association. Our meetings are normally held the second Tuesday of each month at 7 PM in the Edgewood High School Band room. For more information about the band programs and other Band Booster news visit www.edgewoodband.com or e-mail us at arnoldjp@edgewood.k12.oh.us

President: Doug Stamper (jdstamp@sbcglobal.net)

President-Elect: Todd Cumpston (fireman9556@yahoo.com)

Secretary: Amy Blust (anttaim@aol.com)

Treasurer: Angie Stamper (wstamper@cinci.rr.com)

Treasurer-Elect: Jo Ann Stamper (jdstamp@sbcglobal.net)

FORMS

Summer and Fall Attendance and Work Policy Student-Parent Agreement

We (Student and Parent/Guardian) agree to the following:

1. To not leave the school grounds during rehearsals for any reason without the permission of Mr. Arnold.
2. To attend all rehearsals and performances during the summer and fall marching band season unless excused by Mr. Arnold.
3. To not use work as an excuse to (1) miss rehearsals or performances, (2) leave rehearsals or performances early, or (3) arrive to rehearsals or performances late.

(Student Signature)

(Date)

(Parent/Guardian Signature)

(Date)

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS FORM TO Mr. Arnold

2009 EDGEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
MARCHING BAND HANDBOOK AGREEMENT

I understand the information contained in the 2009 Marching Band Handbook and that all part assignments and positions are subject to change for the benefit of the band and the individual. I will abide by the regulations therein. Should I have any questions or concerns, I will contact Mr. Arnold immediately to eliminate any confusion.

Student signature: _____

Parent signature: _____

Primary Parent Email Address (for band database):

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS FORM TO Mr. Arnold