

# Leyden High School Marching Band

## FAQs

### How Can I Join Marching Band?

Marching band is an extra-curricular opportunity that is offered as a summer school class at Leyden. To sign up, visit the summer school registration portal, **MySchoolBucks**. Registration opens in **January 2025**, so mark your calendars! Mr. Walker will communicate further information as we get closer to registration.

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### What Instruments Are in the Marching Band?

Our marching band features a wide variety of instruments, including:

- **Woodwinds:** Flute/piccolo, clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone
  - **Brass:** Trumpet, mellophone, trombone, baritone, sousaphone
  - **Percussion:** Drumline (snare, bass, tenors, cymbals), front ensemble (mallets)
  - **Auxiliary:** Colorguard
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### What Is the Cost to Participate?

The tuition for marching band is **\$90 per student (due by June 2025)**. If you need assistance, we offer payment plans for those who request it. Payments will be processed through the school cashier at LHS. Contact Mr. Walker with any questions or concerns.

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### How Long Is the Marching Band Season?

The season includes several evening rehearsals throughout the summer, focusing on music and marching skills. We also hold a **week-long band camp** in late July or August to learn the pregame and halftime shows. Our performances include select school functions, daytime and overnight trips, marching festivals, parades and more. The season concludes in late October.

## **When Will I Know the Marching Band Schedule For the 2025 Season?**

Our first rehearsal will take place in the early Spring (May/June). Mr. Walker will send out a schedule to all of our partner school directors before the end of the school year.

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## **I Will Need to Rent an Instrument. How Do I Do That?**

There will be a digital rental form for any student needing to rent an instrument prior to the first rehearsal. There is no cost to rent. We can help you out when you show up!

**Note:** Equipment for sousaphone, drumline, front ensemble and colorguard will be provided, so these members do not need to submit the rental form.

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## **Will I Have Enough Time to Participate?**

Absolutely! Marching band students typically excel academically and manage their schedules well. While the schedule can sometimes be demanding, it provides valuable skills in time management, cooperation, and discipline. Most rehearsals take place after 5 pm to avoid conflicts with other activities, especially once the school year begins. If you have concerns about scheduling conflicts with sports or other commitments, talk to Mr. Walker for assistance. We have several football, volleyball, baseball, and tennis players who are in marching band. **We will find a way to make it work for you!**

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## **I Want To Be On the Drumline, Front Ensemble, or Colorguard...How Can I Participate?**

The drumline, front ensemble, and colorguard will be hosting spring clinics for anyone interested in joining! Each clinic/audition will take place at West Leyden High School from 6:30-8:30pm. Even if you're unsure, come give it a try and decide afterward. For drumline and front ensemble, there will be a placement audition to help us find the best fit for each student—don't worry, no one will be cut! There is no placement audition required for colorguard.

4/21/2025     Marching Band: Drumline/Front Ensemble/Colorguard Clinic #1

4/28/2025     Marching Band: Drumline/Front Ensemble/Colorguard Clinic #2

4/30/2025     Marching Band: Drumline/Front Ensemble Auditions

## **I am interested in being in Concert or Symphonic Band...How Can I Participate?**

Concert and Symphonic Band are elective classes offered during the school day. Symphonic Band is the highest level band offered at LHS. Students entering their 9th grade year should enroll in Concert Band II, however any student that wishes to be considered for Symphonic Band placement should contact their director to receive audition materials.

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## **I heard there are Jazz Bands At LHS?**

Yes! We offer three extra-curricular Jazz Ensembles at LHS: Studio Jazz Ensemble (audition required), WLHS Jazz Ensemble (no audition), and ELHS Jazz Ensemble (no audition). The Jazz Ensembles begin rehearsing in November of each year, once a week after school. Studio Jazz Ensemble is the top jazz ensemble made up of students from both ELHS and WLHS and requires an audition to be admitted. Auditions will take place in October. WLHS and ELHS Jazz Ensembles do not require an audition. Sign-ups will take place in October. Instrumentation includes: flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, bari saxophone, trumpet, trombone, guitar, bass, piano, and drumset.

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## **Does LHS Offer Any Other Music Opportunities?**

Yes! We also offer the following extracurricular opportunities: Pep Band (performs at basketball games) and Drum Club (Percussion Ensemble). Pep Band and Drum Club both begin in November. No audition is required to participate. Leyden also offers Digital Music Production as a music elective. Contact Mr. Walker for further details!

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## **Additional Questions?**

If you have any further questions, feel free to reach out to Mr. Walker at [jawalker@leyden212.org](mailto:jawalker@leyden212.org).