

NORTH HIGH SCHOOL BAND CAMP SURVIVAL GUIDE

The sun is high! The days are hot! It's time for Marching Band Camp at North High School! Here is some information to help you get ready. Band camp is intense... band camp is grueling... band camp is one of the **best** experiences you will have during high school! While camp is in session, everyone complains about it. When camp is over, everyone brags about having been there. Everyone swears that they'll never do it again... until the next year when they all come back. Band camp sets you apart from the rest of the school community - it bonds you together like no other group within the school. Being part of the Marching Band and attending band camp is a **MAJOR** accomplishment. It makes you part of a team where each and every member is equally important and equally necessary. Each of you possesses a unique talent that makes you special. The band faculty and staff respect you for your talent and for your commitment. We are here to make sure that you all succeed. You all make us very proud!

What do I need?

You will need to have the following items for band camp - have them ready. Band camp is an intense experience and you will all be very tired. Try to get as many of these supplies as you can in advance to make your life easier.

- Your equipment (instruments, etc.) in good working order. (Woodwinds: bring extra reeds.)
- Your music - practice it and start memorizing it. Music will be on our website very soon.
- Pencils - sharpened with erasers. Bring more than one! Highlighters!
- Water container - You provide a leak-proof container with your name on it. You can also bring your own bottled water, if you prefer. Don't share water!
- Sunscreen - being burnt to a crisp will not provide good camp memories.
- Sunglasses - marching band members are cool and need to look that way.
- Proper clothing – light colored athletic clothing. **No Jeans**. Wear a hat! Athletic shoes with socks. **No Sandals!**
- Make sure you shower daily. No one likes to march next to the stinky kid
- 8-1/2 x 11 3 ring binder with clear protective sleeves for music.
- Lunch/Dinner – 90 min lunch and dinner breaks will be given to the ensemble. Kids can stay and eat in the music department or they can go home. Sections like to go out to eat at least once during the week. Talk to you section leader to see when they line this up.

What do I need to bring and when?

Every day:

- Water container or bottled water - AN ABSOLUTE MUST.
- Lunch – Have a plan – Have a ride – ask around - kids love to carpool
- Your equipment and music. Make sure you don't leave anything at home.
- Enthusiasm and great attitude! Be prepared to be pushed outside your comfort zone.
- Pencils. Highlighters.
- 8-1/2x11 binder with sleeves. For your music
- Athletic clothing, shoes/socks, sunglasses, sunscreen.
- Fill out all paper work that will be handed out. Make sure to make payments on band dues.

What do I need to wear?

- Cool, comfortable light colored clothing that meets the school dress code.
- Athletic shorts.
- Socks and tennis shoes. NO SANDALS!
- Hats are OK – recommended, in fact.
- Don't wear jeans... they are HOT and you will regret it.
- Those with long hair should consider tying it up - it's much cooler that way.
- Try to bring clothes that dry fast - it helps keep you more comfortable. Taking extra showers during breaks will help with energy and general outlook on life

Other helpful information:

- Students must comply with SC Community Schools Behavior and Dress Code Policies.
- Be ready! Do something outside in advance so that your body is prepared for the heat.
- Get plenty of rest... you'll need it.
- Eat a healthy breakfast each morning, early enough so the food can digest before you hit the field. Having a tummy ache will not get you excused. Also hydration starts the days before camp. Stay away from sugar drinks. Water is always your best bet!
- If you don't know, ask! The staff and upper classmen are here to help you.
- Don't worry about memorizing your music - by the time we're done, you'll get it.
- Don't worry about learning to move and play at the same time - we'll teach you.
- Uniforms will be fitted during the first week - you'll all look simply marvelous!
- Participation in camp is mandatory and essential for all members. Please do not schedule appointments or other events that will require missing any band camp time, as you will not be excused to leave. We don't want you to miss out!

There is a lot of information here. A lot of it stated multiple times. The #1 thing to do is to show up and enjoy your time!

Students: Send all information we give you to your parents so that they know!

Parents: Ask your child if there are things that need to be relayed to you!

Know Your Schedule!!!!

See you soon

Mr. Sursely & Mr. Henderson