

Brighton High School

Brighton, MI



Brighton

High School

Bands

Student Handbook

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“After silence, that which comes nearest to expressing the inexpressible is music.” — Aldous Huxley

FORWARD

Welcome to the Brighton High School Band! We are excited to welcome you to participate in the rich musical tradition of our band program. This handbook is a guide for students and parents to understand the obligations, performances, grading policies and other vital information surrounding our band.

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CALENDAR of EVENTS

The band program calendar is found (and maintained) on the band website:

<https://www.brightonbands.org/calendar>

This is the official band calendar and all modifications to the schedule will be posted on the website. All performances are required and part of a grade unless otherwise noted. Paper copies of the schedule are available for students in the band room.

For a complete an up-to-date schedule, please refer to the on-line calendar

BHS BANDS TENTATIVE 2026-2027 CALENDAR

August 17-21	8:00-2:30	HOME BAND CAMP at BHS
August 17	3:00-5:00	Senior & Junior Uniform fitting, supplies, school inst. pick-up
August 18	3:00-5:00	Sophomore Uniform fitting, etc.
August 19	3:00-5:00	Freshman Uniform fitting, etc.
August 20	3:00-5:00	Freshman Uniform fitting, etc.
August 21	3:00-5:00	Make-up Uniform fitting, etc.
August 23-29	All Day	AWAY BAND CAMP at NISSOCONE
Sept 1 & 2	7:00-9:00	FULL BAND REHEARSAL
September 3	3:00-?	<i>RUN THROUGH AND HOME GAME (vs. Wayne Mem'l – Youth Night)</i>
September 8	3:00-?	Walled Lake Invitational
September 11	TBA	PEP BAND @ Northville
September 15 & 16	7:00-9:00	FULL BAND REHEARSAL
September 18	TBA	PEP BAND @ Hartland
September 22 & 23	7:00-9:00	FULL BAND REHEARSAL
September 25	3:00-?	<i>RUN THROUGH AND HOME GAME (vs. Crestwood – Pink)</i>
September 29 & 30	7:00-9:00	FULL BAND REHEARSAL
October 2	TBA	PEP BAND @ Dearborn
October 6&7	7:00-9:00	FULL BAND REHEARSAL
October 9	TBA	PEP BAND @ Howell
October 13 & 14	7:00-9:00	FULL BAND REHEARSAL
October 16	5:00-?	<i>HOMECOMING PARADE AND HOME GAME (vs. John Glenn - HoCo)</i>
October 20 & 21	7:00-9:00	FULL BAND REHEARSAL
October 23	3:00-?	<i>RUN THROUGH AND HOME GAME (vs. KLAA Crossover – Sr. Night)</i>
October 23-24	11PM-6AM	SENIOR BAND LOCK-IN (BHS Music Wing)
October 28	7:00	BAND-O-RAMA in BCPA
October 30 or 31	TBA	Possible Playoff Game
November 6 or 7	TBA	Possible Playoff Game (District)
November 13 or 14	TBA	Possible Playoff Game (Regional)
November 20 or 21	TBA	Possible Playoff Game (Semi-final)
November 23	All Day	MARCHING BAND MIDDLE/ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TOUR
November 28	TBA	Possible Playoff Game (Championship)

December 8 & 9	7:00pm	Winter Collage Concert	ALL BANDS	BCPA
February 5/6	All Day	District IV Solo & Ensemble	All Band Students	TBA
February 13	2:30pm	State Solo & Ensemble Entry	Select Students	S-Office
February 18	7:00pm	Pre-Festival Showcase Concert	CB/WS/WE	BCPA
February 25/26/27	TBD	Possible District Band Festival	ALL BANDS	TBA
March 4/5/6	TBD	Possible District Band Festival	ALL BANDS	TBA
March 20	All Day	State Solo & Ensemble Festival	Selected Students	TBA
April 29, 2027	7:00	MANDATORY BAND CAMP MEETING (Aux. Gym)		
May 12	7:00pm	Fine Arts Finale Concert	ALL BANDS	BCPA
May 18	7:00pm	Awards Night	ALL BANDS	BCPA
May 20	7:00pm	Orchestra Concert w/ Symph. Orch.WE		BCPA
May 31	9:00 a.m.	Memorial Day Parade	Marching Band	Bandroom
May 31 / June 1	10:30 a.m.	School Instrument Turn-In	ALL BANDS	Bandroom

BHS MARCHING BAND GAME-DAY SCHEDULE

2:30 PM	Call time in Band Room. Attendance, warmup, sectional
4:00 PM	Walk to football stadium. Setup field: podiums, speakers, drum stands
4:15 PM	<i>Field rehearsal: halftime + pregame</i>
5:15 PM	Dinner time! (arranged by Band Boosters), then change into full uniform. DO NOT LEAVE CAMPUS DURING THIS TIME
6:20 PM	In parade block for inspection. Rank Leaders: Uniform Check
6:30 PM	STEP OFF – Performance time!
6:45 PM	PRE-GAME show begins
7:00 PM	KICK-OFF In Stands. FULL UNIFORM always worn. Bathroom breaks in groups of two. NO FOOD/SNACKS ALLOWED besides those given to you by Boosters after halftime.
AFTER GAME	POST-GAME show performance on field. March back to the Band room. Dismissal occurs in the band room. Each section will be assigned a game at which they are required to clean up and return the room and hallways to a clean state.

BHS MARCHING BAND TOUR SCHEDULE (subject to change)

7:45	MEET AT SCRANTON MIDDLE SCHOOL – FULL UNIFORM, NO HATS/GLOVES Leaders take and report attendance
8:00	PERFORM <i>INSIDE</i> AT SCRANTON MIDDLE SCHOOL BOARD BUSES PERFORM <i>OUTSIDE</i> AT HAWKINS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOARD BUSES PERFORM <i>INSIDE</i> AT MALTBY INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
10:30-11:00	LUNCH AT MALTBY (<i>Need approx. 8 parent volunteers to serve lunch</i>) PERFORM <i>INSIDE</i> FOR HORNUNG ELEMENTARY @ MALTBY BOARD BUSES PERFORM <i>OUTSIDE</i> AT HILTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOARD BUSES PERFORM <i>OUTSIDE</i> AT SPENCER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOARD BUSES
2:00	RETURN TO BHS

OBJECTIVES

Band at Brighton High School provides its ensemble members with the means for musical as well as personal growth. Music education encourages the development of skills, knowledge, appreciation, attitudes, and cultural awareness to promote a lifelong enjoyment of music. It also promotes a learning environment which fosters personal growth in areas including teamwork and cooperation, self-esteem, confidence, personal and group pride, problem solving, higher thinking and leadership skills.

ELIGIBILITY

All students at Brighton High School with experience in school music ensembles are eligible for enrollment in band. Enrollment in the Wind Ensemble is contingent upon an audition the spring semester prior to the school year.

AUDITIONS

Parts will be assigned by the Director of Bands based on student ability, potential for growth, and the needs of the ensemble. All players will experience a rotation of various parts throughout the school year. Auditions for marching band auxiliary units will take place prior to the end of the preceding school year.

BHS COLOR GUARD

The Brighton High School Color Guard prides itself in contributing to the visual effects that enhance the Brighton High School Marching Band's performance. We offer all Brighton High School students the chance to participate, whether they are involved in band classes or not. The BHS Color Guard team does not meet in a traditional class format to practice. Weekly sectionals will be held throughout the summer and outside of Marching Band practice in the fall to learn, rehearse, and memorize the choreography.

The Color Guard will hold **mandatory sectionals every Tuesday evening this season from 5-6:40 PM before the 7-9 PM Marching Band rehearsal**. Students that audition and are chosen to be on the **rifle line** will be expected to attend an **additional mandatory sectional on Wednesday evenings from 6-6:45 PM before the 7-9 PM Marching Band rehearsal**. A schedule detailing the weekly sectionals will be handed out to members. By signing the Color Guard contract, the students and their parents/guardians agree to honor this commitment. Excused absences from sectionals will need to be communicated to the color guard coach **at least one week ahead of time**. Failure to attend sectionals/rehearsals with an unexcused absence could result in a student being pulled from a performance.

The Color Guard will perform at all events that require Marching Band participation unless otherwise stated. This includes home football games, the Walled Lake Marching Band preview performance, MSBOA Marching Band festival, parades, trips, elementary/middle school tours, and Band-O-Rama. Please make sure to add all the events in this handbook to your calendar.

****Twirlers are expected to attend the Tuesday sectionals as well!***

ENSEMBLES

Concert Band

Membership in this ensemble is open to all students who have experience playing a band instrument and have skills to play high school level band literature. Grade 9 band students will be placed into this class by default. Band members will have several responsibilities outside the school day including concerts and concert festivals. Membership in this group represents a very high degree of commitment and self-discipline. Participation in Concert Band will involve membership in the Brighton High School Bulldog Marching Band.

Wind Symphony

This is a group of band students in grades 10-12 who exhibit a rising level of proficiency in the playing of high school band literature on a band instrument. Band members will have several responsibilities outside the school day including concerts and festivals. Membership in this group represents a very high degree of commitment and self-discipline. Participation in Wind Symphony will involve membership in the Brighton High School Bulldog Marching Band.

Wind Ensemble

Membership in this ensemble is by audition only. Auditions will take place in the Spring semester of the preceding year. This is the most selective and advanced band class at Brighton High School, exhibiting the highest level of ability and dedication to the band program. Participation in Wind Ensemble will involve membership in the Brighton High School Bulldog Marching Band. Band members will have several responsibilities outside the school day including concerts and concert festivals. Membership in this group represents a very high degree of commitment and self-discipline. All Wind Ensemble students are expected to consider private instrument lessons and are strongly encouraged to participate in the MSBOA District and State Solo & Ensemble Festivals.

Jazz Band

This is a course open to traditional jazz, big band instrumentation: alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, baritone saxophone, trumpet, trombone, drum set, piano, guitar, and bass. Exceptions to this instrumentation may be made at the discretion of the director of bands. Rhythm section positions (drum set, piano, guitar, and bass) will be made available to the general student body as needed, however, priority preference will be given to those students currently enrolled in a concert band. Jazz Band performs regularly outside of Brighton High School and full participation in travel events is required for all members.

Bulldog Marching Band

The BHS Bulldog Marching Band is the marching ensemble of Brighton High School. The BMB performs at home football games, local parades, school functions, and represents Brighton High School in many other local, regional, and national events. There are a series of marching band camps held in summertime that all members should arrange to attend. The band consists of five distinct sections that perform as one unit: winds, drumline, color guard, twirlers, and drum majors. Auditions are required for all sections besides winds.

GRADING POLICY

THE SEMESTER GRADE

Performances – 40% of Grade

This category involves some of the most important aspects of being in a performing ensemble, and it is taken very seriously. It is crucial for both parents and students to review the band performance calendar so that performances are not missed, and potential conflicts avoided.

Performance Grades

A student's performance grade consists of five categories: attendance, bringing the appointed instruments/music/accessories to the performance, appropriate behavior, appropriate uniform, and appropriate storage of instruments and supplies at the end of the concert. A student will receive 0% if they are absent (unexcused).

Daily Citizenship – 30% of Grade

This category includes having your instrument, music, reed, mouthpiece, music, pencil, etc. at every rehearsal, as well as adherence to Brighton High School's cell phone policy. It is also a reflection of a student's behavior during rehearsal and tardiness to rehearsal. Each day of class is worth a point. Earn your reputation by earning your points!

In-Class Assignments – 15% of Grade

This category involves all written assignments given during class by the director for the purpose of music instruction.

Playing Tests – 15% of Grade

All playing tests may be retaken within the same marking period. Playing tests on fundamental materials will be given each marking period. Learning and mastering fundamental musicianship skills is crucial to enjoying the experience! No one wants to struggle to read and play music; playing tests help students measure their learning progress.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

Band student leaders report directly to the Directors and are entrusted with tasks that support rehearsals, performances, and travel. Their responsibilities include calling sectionals, checking that music is marked, helping section members march clean drill, and promoting a positive and professional attitude. Leaders help maintain pride and focus throughout the band and must be dependable role models. Leadership positions are appointed annually, and applicants must have at least one full season of marching experience. Drum Majors are required to attend a summer leadership camp. All leaders are expected to attend meetings with Directors and may be required to arrive early or stay late for events.

Drum Major – Marching Band

The Drum Major(s) are the figurehead(s) of the marching band. They must always conduct themselves with the knowledge that they represent the Bulldog Marching Band. Their duties include conducting on field performances, assisting in rehearsal preparation, and helping with the logistics of running rehearsal.

Auditions for drum major will take place prior to auxiliary auditions and will be seen by directors. Only students who have completed a full year of marching in the BMB will be considered for Drum Major. Exceptions are at the discretion of the director. Appointment to Drum Major is subjective and based on a holistic evaluation of a student from every aspect of their band experience including, but not limited to musicianship, attendance/promptness, citizenship, academic achievement, discipline, initiative, and leadership skills as it relates to the band environment. While all students have an opportunity to be considered for one of these appointed leadership positions, only a limited number of positions can be filled and will vary from year to year.

Section Leader/Color Guard Captain – Marching Band

The Section Leader serves as the primary student leader for their instrument section, guiding both musical and social cohesion. Responsibilities include leading sectionals, assisting peers in learning music and routines, and setting a consistent example of professionalism, preparation, and respect. Section Leaders mentor Rank Leaders, facilitate communication between directors and section members, and may oversee additional duties such as organizing section traditions, t-shirt orders, and social gatherings. Above all, Section Leaders foster a supportive, inclusive, and high-achieving section culture.

Rank Leader – Marching Band

Rank Leaders support the Section Leader by focusing on the visual and interpersonal aspects of the marching experience. They are responsible for teaching and reinforcing marching fundamentals, ensuring that members of their rank understand and embody the band's expectations for discipline, unity, and spirit. Rank Leaders help new members integrate into the band community and are tasked with inspecting uniforms for correctness and consistency before performances. As emerging leaders, they model positive behavior and contribute to a cohesive rank identity.

Principal Player – Concert Bands

At the beginning of each school year, each class will undergo a skills-based assessment to determine a Principal Player for each section of each band. The role of **Principal Player** is to:

- Be a team leader and lead by example in musicianship and rehearsal etiquette
- Demonstrate accurate tuning to the section
- Pass out new music to the section
- Play a majority of first parts (but not exclusively first parts)
- Play solos on major works when designated by the Director(s)

CLASSROOM EQUIPMENT and REPLACEMENT FEES

Participating in band requires having a working instrument. Students are expected to maintain their personal instruments. School instruments are made available as needed and as available. These instruments cost thousands of dollars to replace and must be cared for with great respect and caution. Students are responsible for damage to school instruments due to neglect or misuse. Students are required to purchase their own reeds. Reeds are available through regional music stores or may be ordered online and shipped to you. Reed players need to stay on top of their reed inventory and purchase a new box **before** they run out. Please be sure to store your reeds in an appropriate case.

Notice to clarinet and saxophone players: Vandoren, D'Addario, Légère, or similar quality reeds should be used by all students. Low-quality reeds result in a low-quality learning experience.

Percussion students need to own *at least* one pair of concert drum sticks and bring them to each rehearsal. These sticks should be clearly labeled with initials or some other identification. The recommended basic stick is the Vic Firth SD-1 General which runs around \$10/pair. Students are responsible for the wellbeing of school-owned mallets and sticks.

Students are responsible for the music and concert folder that is assigned to them. Lost parts need to be replaced, and the replacement costs are as follows:

▣ Concert Music – \$5.00/each part ▣ Concert Folder – \$20.00 (includes cost of shipping)

Participation in marching band requires a seasonal financial obligation. The fee for participation in Marching Band will be set by the Band Boosters and Director of Bands. This fee includes most expenses during the Marching Band Season.

TRAVEL POLICY – POLICY on DRUGS and ALCOHOL

Students who represent BHS on trips are expected to maintain very high standards in every respect at all times. They are expected to attend and be on time for all sessions and activities scheduled for them. In the event of overnight trips, they are expected to be in their rooms at the times designated by their sponsors. Negligence in attending sessions, in meeting curfew requirements, or in failing to maintain our standards of conduct may make it necessary for the sponsor to send the student home at their own expense. Self-discipline is important for everyone when on a school-related trip.

Students who are involved in a serious disciplinary offense on a school-related trip, such as the use, possession of, or being under the influence of, illegal drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or **electronic vaping devices**, stealing, fighting, or some other serious offense will face disciplinary action which may include one or more of the following: 1. The student will be sent home from the trip at the parents' expense. 2. The student will be held liable for damages to property. 3. The student may be removed from this school activity as well as other school co-curricular activities. 4. The student may face disciplinary consequences at school at the discretion of BHS administration.

Many times, adult volunteers will assist the band at home and on trips. Students will be expected to always treat them with respect. In the event a parent chaperone gives supervision, band students must honor that with respect. Students, even though you will not always have a band shirt on, people will find out where you are from. You represent BHS and yourself. Be always courteous and polite at band events. There is no way we can anticipate every possible scenario, so we ask for good judgement. Please use common sense. RULE OF THUMB: If there is any question in your mind as to whether you should do something or not...DON'T DO IT! It is better to be safe than sorry.

POLICY on HAZING and HARASSMENT

The Brighton Bands are dedicated to promoting a safe and healthy campus environment for its students, faculty, staff, and visitors. In addition, we are committed to cultivating a community that fosters respect for the dignity and rights of all its members. As such, the director does not tolerate hazing activities by any members of the Brighton High School Band community.

STUDENTS OF THE BHS BAND PROGRAM WILL ADHERE TO THE BHS HARASSMENT AND DISCRIMINATION POLICIES AT ALL TIMES.

The policies laid out in your student handbook are in place to ensure the safety and security of every student at BHS. Students will adhere to these policies at all times, regardless of whether band activities take us off school grounds or bring us together outside of the regular academic year (trips, band camp, summer rehearsals, etc.). If any student should ever feel that their rights have been violated or that they have witnessed an act of hazing, harassment, or discrimination, PLEASE notify a band director or any member of the staff. If the student does not feel comfortable reporting such an incident to band staff, please report to the high school guidance counselor's office or another teacher or administrator. Such violation of conduct will be acted upon with ZERO tolerance.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

In order to succeed, the band must be able to count on full participation and attendance from ALL band members at all rehearsals and performances. If a student is unable to be at a performance or rehearsal, at least two week's notice must be given to Mr. Swinkey, confirmed by both parent and student. Work conflicts are not an acceptable reason for an excused absence; give the enclosed rehearsal and performance schedule to your employer or coach ahead of time and they will be very understanding when they schedule you. Many, many students have successfully participated in sports, band, and after school jobs simultaneously. Mr. Swinkey is happy to speak with student employers and coaches to verify your commitment to the band's rehearsal and performance schedule. It is the intention of the Director that students will be able to be members of the Band and still successfully participate in after-school extracurricular activities such as clubs and sports.

If you are in an after-school extracurricular activity such as a club or sport – know your schedule! Check your activity's schedule against the band calendar and bring schedule conflicts to Mr. Swinkey as soon as possible. Remember – failing to plan is planning to fail!

In the event of a family or medical emergency, a parent should contact Mr. Swinkey immediately. The director will of course make concessions on attendance in the event of an emergency. Family commitments such as weddings or extended travel will be worked out on an individual basis with the band member and their parent(s)/guardian. Please make the director aware of any such conflict as early as possible.

In general, Band students should use the following guideline for alleviating conflicts:

- A **performance** or **game** outweighs a **rehearsal** or **practice**.
- Conflicts between a **rehearsal** and a **practice** should be worked out by the student between Mr. Swinkey and the activity sponsor/coach – in advance. ***It will be Mr. Swinkey's position to work toward a 50/50 compromise.***
- Similarly, conflicts between a **performance** and a **game** should be worked out ahead of time. ***Every attempt will be made to make both co-exist.***

Band, Sports, Clubs, Jobs – You don't have to choose!

SOLO & ENSEMBLE

- Any BHS band student may participate in either a solo or an ensemble.
- No students from other schools may participate in BHS ensembles.
- Solos must be accompanied by a pianist which student hires, unless the solo is labeled unaccompanied.
- Solos must be a minimum of 2 minutes.
- Ensembles must be a minimum of 2 minutes.
- Chamber choirs must be a minimum of 4 minutes and must have at least 9 people.
- Any student may participate in a total of 3 events.
- They may also participate in chamber choirs and not count towards the 3-event total. **NO STUDENT MAY PARTICIPATE IN MORE THAN 2 CHOIRS.**
- Ensemble members may NOT be replaced once the event goes to district so make sure all your members have dates free for state just in case.
- No ensembles may change any members from state if they are nominated for MYAF
- ***If Solo & Ensemble is hosted at Brighton, all performers must commit to at least one volunteer shift during the event. This is in addition to the annual required volunteering. As a performer, points will be awarded for shifts in excess of those required.***

MARCHING BAND UNIFORM

It is a privilege to wear the BMB and Color Guard uniforms. All parts of the uniform must be worn at each performance. If your uniform does not meet the standard required, you are subject to being removed from a performance or not traveling with the band. These uniforms are a symbol of pride and will be worn accordingly. You must take great care of your uniform! If a band member is seen treating their uniform incorrectly at any time, the student is subject to a loss of performance grade. Here are some dos and don'ts that will always help you and your uniform look great:

- DO NOT remove any material from the uniform yourself.
- Transport your uniform in its garment bag (if it requires transportation) and your hat in the hat box, every time!
- When at a performance, the uniform should be on the student at ALL times. Under no circumstance is a band member to give ANY part of their uniform to another person. Students found in possession of uniform parts not assigned to them will be subject to disciplinary action.
- Take extra time and care when hanging up your uniform. Pants hang folded on the crease, not the seat. Always store your hat in its hat box.
- Hair should not touch the collar. Cosmetics and jewelry are to be kept to a minimum while in uniform. Required marching band uniform shoes must be worn.

Gloves and shoes are purchased by individual members from the band. Care for these items (wash the gloves!) and they will last you for most of, if not your entire marching band career.

Description of Uniform, Equipment, and Associated Costs

1. Summer Uniform (required)
 - a. Marching Shoes: \$40 new, \$10 used (if available)
 - b. White/Pink Gloves: \$5/pair
 - c. Orange dry-fit shirt: \$10 (XS-XL), 2X = \$12, 3X = \$13
 - d. Logo Athletic Shorts: \$25
2. Flip-folder/lyre combo (holds your music to your instrument)
 - a. Flip folder: \$10
 - b. Lyre: \$10
 - c. Folder/Lyre Combo for Flute, Trombone or Trumpet: \$20
3. School-owned instrument rental fee (pays for annual sanitation/maintenance)
 - a. \$50 per instrument, \$100 max.
4. Gameday meals (booster-organized)
 - a. \$10 per game and travel event (not Homecoming)
5. Marching Band Uniform Refundable Deposit fee (one-time, new members only)
 - a. \$50
6. Marching Band Uniform Dry Cleaning (annual)
 - a. \$20
7. Concert Uniform fees
 - a. Vest / Tuxedo fee: \$20
 - b. Soph/Jr/Sr. Dress fee (optional): \$60 new, \$30 used (if available)



BHS MARCHING/CONCERT BANDS UNIFORM and EQUIPMENT COSTS

A \$50 MARCHING BAND UNIFORM DEPOSIT IS EXPECTED FROM ALL FRESHMEN, NEW STUDENTS, AND ANY STUDENT WHO USED THEIR DEPOSIT TO REPAIR A UNIFORM PIECE THE PREVIOUS MARCHING SEASON, AT THE TIME OF INITIAL UNIFORM FITTING IN AUGUST. Like a textbook deposit, this deposit will follow the student throughout their participation in the BHS band program and will be refunded upon request or donated to the Band, less any loss, damage, or unpaid cleaning fees, when the student graduates (No matter when the student leaves the program, the refund does not take place until the end of their senior year). **Please note that most damage occurs when a student walks through the hem in the marching band pants as a result of wearing the pants too long or too low. The fee for a walked through hem is \$50. Be sure pants are hemmed and worn properly!**

An annual uniform cleaning fee of \$20 will be assessed to each student

Uniform fitting will take place according to the schedule listed on the Marching Band Tentative Calendar (p.5). Uniforms for both marching band and concert bands will be fitted at the same time.

The Summer Uniform (orange dry-fit shirt and black shorts) is required. These are sold during uniform fitting and throughout the season as needed. Black marching shoes and black socks (covering the ankles) are also required for any performances in which the summer uniform is worn. The required black marching shoes that are to be worn with both uniforms must also be purchased at the time of uniform fitting (\$40 new/ \$10 used, if available). Tall black socks must be worn with black shoes (no footies or ankle length socks are allowed). **ANY non-standard (as listed above) attire will result in student being sent home/reduction in participation grade.**

*****There is to be no eating or drinking in uniform unless provided by Boosters*****

BHS MARCHING BAND UNIFORM CARE INSTRUCTIONS

UNIFORM FIT

PANTS: The pant length should end at the bottom of the ankle. The crease should not have a fold/bend in it when you stand at attention. Wear your shoes when measuring pant length.

JACKET: The sleeves are to come to the bottom of the wrist. This may be shorter than you normally wear.

HAT: NO HAT "SLAPPING". Keep hat and plume (in tube) in the hatbox when not wearing. To put plume into tube, insert plumes TOP FIRST. This will ensure feathers lay in the right direction. Wipe hats clean at the beginning of the season, and as needed throughout the season.

COLORGUARD & TWIRLERS: DO NOT wash, dry, spray, dry-clean, hem, cut, staple, tape, or alter in any way. See CG Coach with questions or concerns.

UNIFORM ALTERATIONS

HEMS: Sew the hems in by hand. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES should the fabric be cut, or the original hems in sleeves or pants removed. NO STAPLES, GLUE, TAPE, STITCH WITCHERY/HEM TAPE, OR SEWING MACHINE HEMS.

UNIFORM ACCESSORIES

*Black shoes (POLISHED)

*Black Socks (**TALL- NO ANKLES SHOWING!**)-When cold, wear heavy socks under black

*Summer uniform shirt/shorts worn under marching uniform

*White Gloves (CLEAN)

*Bars/Stars as assigned

*Raincoat (bring to every game, even if no rain is forecasted – storage provided at BHS)

- Hang up uniform when not wearing. If it is wet, hang it to dry **OUTSIDE** the garment bag.

(Wet uniforms will mold if not allowed to dry properly!)

- A garment bag will be issued to all new members and will be used for the duration of student's years in band. If needed, a replacement garment bag will be provided for a \$15 fee
- Take your uniform home after every performance. Do not leave any part of uniform at BHS unless other instructions are given
- Student is responsible for anything lost, damaged, or stolen
- Hem sleeves and trousers with a hand sewn basting stitch, leaving original hem in.
- Keep track of your assigned uniform numbers
- NEVER Leave your uniform in a heap
- NEVER hem sleeves or trousers with staples, glue, tape of any kind, iron-on hem tape/stitch witchery, or by sewing machine.

BHS MARCHING BAND UNIFORM REPLACEMENT COSTS

All students are expected to take care of their uniforms.

Any damaged or lost parts ***will be charged to the student*** as follows:

Marching Coat \$425.00
Bibbers \$189.00
Shako \$80.00
Shako box \$10.95
Beret \$15.50
White Plume \$25.00
Pink Plume \$10.00
Plume Tube \$5.00
Trombone Cover \$35.00
Drum Major Coat \$395.00
Fur Busby \$125.00
Rain Parka \$130.00
Hanger for Uniform or Rain Parka \$5.00
Garment Bag \$15.00

PROPER UNIFORM FIT AND WEAR

Boys & Girls

Hair pinned up - not to fall
below collar

No long or oversized earrings

Tall black socks

Polished black shoes



Sleeves hemmed to bottom of
wrist.

White t-shirt, black shorts
underneath.

Clean white gloves

No break in pant crease

Hem to bottom of ankle

Temporary hem only

BHS CONCERT UNIFORM

Concert uniforms are worn for concerts in October, December, February and May. All school-issued concert uniforms are **dry clean only**. Any uniform cleaned in the washer/dryer will be charged the full replacement cost.

Tuxedo shirts can be purchased at Brighton Tux Shop. Mention you need it for Band

Freshmen: Rental fee \$10

School issues a vest and bow tie.

Student provides own black dress pants, a white tuxedo shirt, black socks, black dress shoes.

Soph./Jr/Sr Tuxedo option: Rental fee \$20

School issues a tuxedo, and bow tie.

Student provides a white tuxedo shirt, black socks, and black dress shoes.

Tuxedos must not be altered in any way!

Sophomore (and new Jr/Sr) Dress option: New \$60, Used 30

Student purchases a concert dress through Boosters. Worn with black dress shoes.

The dress can be altered as needed for a good fit.

New dresses are very long and usually require shortening. The hem should come to the top of the shoe at the back of the heel. Lower heels are better.

Concert Uniform Replacement Costs:

Tuxedo Jacket - \$135

Tuxedo Pants - \$70

Vest - \$50

Bow Tie - \$10

BHS BAND POINTS

Students are eligible to earn points towards a Varsity Band Letter by participating in various activities throughout their high school band career. The director keeps an official record, but **students are encouraged to track their own points and compare them periodically with the official record.** Any discrepancies must be reported at least two weeks prior to letter awards given at the fall **Band-O-Rama Show** and the **Spring Awards Night**. Request for any points earned outside of BHS official activities must be made using the **Points Submission Form** below. Additional copies are available in the band room.

Awards are cumulative and are given at the following levels:

200 POINTS = LETTER awarded

400 POINTS = Gold Bar awarded

600 POINTS = Silver Bar awarded

800 POINTS = Engraved Plaque awarded at end of Senior year

OUTSIDE ACTIVITY BAND POINTS REQUEST

STUDENT NAME: _____

GRADUATION YEAR: _____ DATE (S) OF ACTIVITY: _____

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY I AM REQUESTING POINTS FOR: _____

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____

ALL REQUESTS MUST BE MADE WITHIN 30 DAYS OF WHEN THE ACTIVITY OCCURS, EXCEPT SUMMER
ACTIVITY REQUESTS WHICH ARE DUE BY OCTOBER 15

BHS BAND POINTS STUDENT RECORD

Student Name: _____ Graduation Year: _____

Activity Name (points)	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
Wind Ensemble (60 given in May)				
Wind Symphony (50 given in May)				
Concert Band (50 given in May)				
Jazz Band (25 given in May)				
WinterGuard (50 given in May)				
Marching Band (25 given in October)				
Solo & Ensemble (10 per event)				
State Solo & Ensemble (15 per event)				
Honors Band (10)				
Honors Band 1 st Chair (2)				
Marching Band Camp (10)				
Drum Major (50)				
Drum Minor (30)				
MB Section Leader (10)				
MB Rank Captain (5)				
Pep Band (2 per event)				
Feature Parade (5, not Memorial or HoCo)				
Overnight Tour (10)				
Uniform Fitting Volunteer (1 per hour)				
Tag Days (2 per shift, if no scholarship)				
Concessions (2 per shift)				
Festival Volunteer (2 per shift)				
Accompanist (2 per event)				
Music Camp (10)				
Musical (pit-20, onstage-10, offstage-5)				
Student Band Aide (25)				

Date earned:

Letter _____ Gold Bar _____ Silver Bar _____ Plaque _____

***At the director's discretion, points will be adjusted if performances are missed and unexcused
(i.e.: Close-up trips, family vacations, etc.)***

BHS MARCHING BAND CAMP

- LOCATION:** HOME CAMP: Brighton High School
AWAY CAMP: YMCA Camp Nissokone, Oscoda, MI
- DATES:** HOME CAMP: August 17-21, 2026
AWAY CAMP: August 23-29, 2026
- MAILING ADDRESS:** Student's Name and Grade
Brighton High School Band
YMCA Camp Nissokone
6836 F-41
Oscoda, MI 48750
- PHONE:** (989) 739-2801
- VISITORS:** Visitation by parents during the week is only by prior arrangement with the directors.
- TRANSPORTATION:** Students are expected to travel to camp on the buses provided by the Band Boosters. NO student cars will be allowed. Parents are expected to pick their students up at camp after the show on Saturday.
- APPROVED DRESS:** Please wear athletic clothing appropriate for exercise. Students must wear shoes with a closed toe and closed heel (sneakers), for marching. Camp Nissokone does not allow flip-flops on campus but sandals with a backstrap are allowed.
- CAMP REGULATIONS:** You are expected to accept and conform to all regulations of Camp Nissokone and Brighton High School. The use of tobacco, alcohol, and unauthorized drugs will not be tolerated at camp. Boys are not to go into the girls' cabins and girls are not to go into the boys' cabins. All over-the-counter medication must be given to the camp nurse, students may not keep them in their cabins. Camper safety is something that BHS and Camp Nissokone take seriously. Students are not permitted on the slip & slide or in the lake without camp staff present. The right is reserved to send any student home that fails to accept supervision and the above regulations, without refunding any part of fees paid.



Directions to YMCA Camp Nissokone from Brighton (approximately 3 hours):

Take **US-23 N** toward Flint

Merge onto **I-75 N**

Take **Exit 188** to merge onto **US-23 N** toward Standish/Alpena

Continue to follow **US-23 N**

Turn left onto **County Hwy F41** at the Burger King in Oscoda

Camp Nissokone will be on the right just past Oscoda Wurtsmith Airport

PARENTS' DAY AT CAMP NISSOKONE BAND CAMP SHOW

Saturday, August 29, 2026

1:00pm

Parents and family members are invited to camp on Saturday afternoon for the marching band demonstration and annual Band Camp Show. Feel free to bring chairs or blankets to sit on, as there are no bleachers at the practice field. Bring a camera or video recorder, if you wish.

Camp Nissokone is approximately 3 hours from Brighton. The central camp is located about 2 miles north of Oscoda on F-41, which branches off of US-23 just north of Oscoda at the Burger King. See map for directions.

You are your student's ride home. If you are unable to come to the show on Saturday, please arrange for a friend to bring your student home. **If your student is not going home with you, we must have the form below at the time your student checks in with their cabin counselor to leave for camp to let us know how they will be traveling home.**

Student Name _____

Will be traveling home from Band Camp with:

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Sample Day at Marching Band Camp

7:00am	Flag Raising
7:15am	Breakfast (see nurse for meds)
8:00am	Field Rehearsal
11:30pm	Lunch (see nurse for meds)
12:00pm	Recreational time
1:30pm	Sectionals
3:00pm	Full Band sit-down music rehearsal in the Big Tent
4:00pm	Recreational time
5:15pm	Dinner (see nurse for meds)
6:00pm	Field Rehearsal
9:00pm	Evening Activity (see nurse for meds)
10:00pm	Dismiss to Cabins
11:00pm	Lights Out

*Rehearsals and sectionals are subject to change day by day.

Camp Equipment Packing Checklist

- ☐ **Instrument** ☐ **Flip folio** ☐ **Lyre** ☐ **Music**
- ☐ **Band Camp Marching Uniform** (orange dri-fit, blk shorts, marching shoes, blk socks)
- ☐ **Pencils with erasers, paper clips, and rubber bands**
- ☐ Sleeping bag or bed sheets
- ☐ Pillow
- ☐ Laundry bag
- ☐ Raincoat or poncho
- ☐ Underwear
- ☐ Toiletries (soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrush/paste, razor, etc.)
- ☐ Towel and washcloth
- ☐ Socks (VERY IMPORTANT to prevent blisters) plan at least 2 pair per day
- ☐ COMFORTABLE SHOES for marching (NOT SANDALS)
- ☐ Extra shoes for marching, in case of rain
- ☐ Jacket, sweater, or sweatshirt
- ☐ Pajamas
- ☐ Casual wear for evening
- ☐ 1 dressy outfit for Friday night's band camp dance
- ☐ Jeans, shorts, t-shirts, etc. for daily wear
- ☐ Swimsuit and beach towel
- ☐ Flashlight
- ☐ Kleenex
- ☐ Camera (opt)
- ☐ Flip flops for the shower
- ☐ **SUNSCREEN**
- ☐ Insect repellant
- ☐ Hat for marching in the sun
- ☐ **Water bottle** (refillable)

BRIGHTON BAND BOOSTERS

As the parent or guardian of a Brighton Band student you are automatically a member of the Brighton Band Boosters. The Boosters organization exists to support and promote the directors and students of the Brighton Bands at all levels; Intermediate, Middle, and High school. There are many tasks to accomplish each year, from fund raising, soliciting sponsors, and planning social events, to driving students on Tag Days, fitting uniforms, distributing half-time snacks at home football games, and *so much more*. Participation by all parents/guardians at all levels is crucial to the success of our organization. At the high school level, parent volunteerism is required in order for your student(s) to qualify for any Boosters financial support that may be offered in years when the band goes on tour. **The minimum volunteer commitment for high school parents/guardians is two volunteer shifts per student, per year (concessions is STRONGLY encouraged)** that your children are in one of the high school bands, although more is always welcome and appreciated!

The subsidy incentive policy, based on parent volunteers, is defined in the following manner and according to available funds:

- 2-4 Shifts, Tier 1 subsidy per student in the family
- 5-11 Shifts, Tier 2 subsidy per student in the family
- 12-19 Shifts, Tier 3 subsidy per student in the family
- 20+ Shifts, Tier 4 subsidy per student in the family

Parents DO NOT earn points on a student's behalf.

The Brighton Band Boosters holds monthly meetings during the school year on the first Monday of each month (provided school is in session that day) at 7:00pm in the High School Band Room. Please consider becoming an actively involved member by attending the Boosters meetings.

For additional information, including meeting dates, links to various band forms, and dates and times of upcoming Brighton Band events and performances, please visit:

www.brightonbandboosters.org

2026-2027 Brighton Band Boosters

Executive Board Volunteers

President: Lauren Coffman

Vice President: Amanda Lawson

Secretary: Miriam Yakimow

Treasurer: Karen Gwidt, Christine Turnbow

Booster Committees
Band Aide
Equipment Transportation
Website
Weekly Newsletter
Uniform Fitting- HS Marching
Uniform Fitting- HS Concert
Football Volunteer Coordinator
Half-Time Snacks- Home Football
Concessions- Varsity Football
Concessions- Frosh/JV Football
Concessions- Community Football
Concessions- Basketball/Lacrosse
Festival Organization/Volunteers
Festival Concessions
Fall Fundraiser
Spring Fundraiser
Tag Days
Concert Volunteers/Programs
Social Events
Publicity
Sponsors
Spirit Wear
Video/Photographer
Social Media

BRIGHTON BANDS

REQUEST FOR ABSENCE

If access to Mr. Swinkey's Google form is not available, the purpose of this form is to notify the directors if you will be missing a required band performance as presented in this Handbook or communicated by the Directors. This form must be turned in **at least two weeks prior** to the date of the performance you are requesting to be excused from.

Missed performances will require an alternative assignment

By submitting this form, you are **NOT** automatically excused. Your request will be considered and evaluated based on criteria established by the Brighton Bands and the Brighton Board of Education.

We have read the above statements and agree to the terms thereof

PARENT SIGNATURE

STUDENT SIGNATURE

DATE

STUDENT NAME (please print)

STUDENT #

PERFORMANCE DATE (MM/DD/YY)

REASON FOR ABSENCE:

FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY:

___ EXCUSED

___ PARTIALLY EXCUSED

___ UNEXCUSED

BRIGHTON HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENT CONTRACT
2026-2027

A limited number/selection of school owned instruments (including drums) are available to students for a nominal yearly fee of \$50 **per instrument** (*max \$100 per student*). This fee covers expenses related to maintaining, cleaning, and repairing the instruments at the end of each year. This completed and signed form along with payment of the \$50 **per instrument** (*max \$100 per student*) rental fee acknowledges your agreement with the following:

1. I agree to care for and maintain the assigned school-owned instrument and case as if it were my own.
2. I agree to return the instrument, case, and all accessories (as applicable) by the date requested at the end of the 2026-2027 school year.
3. If the instrument and/or case are not returned, I agree that I am responsible for the full replacement cost.

(Specialty instruments: English Horn, Flugel Horn, etc. are only available when W/E is not using them)

No instruments will be assigned without this signed form and proper payment. If more than one instrument is assigned, a separate form and fee is required for each instrument.

STUDENT NAME _____ GRADE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY AND ZIP _____

PHONE (HOME) _____ (PARENT CELL) _____

SCHOOL INSTRUMENT ASSIGNED _____

MAKE _____ SERIAL NUMBER _____

PARENT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

STUDENT SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____