

BALLARD HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND FAQs

Who

The award-winning Marching Band is a highly energetic and entertaining group that consists of all students in Percussion, Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band classes. It also supports the greater BHS community by performing at home football and basketball games and representing the school at parades throughout the Northwest.

What

Practice and game participation is mandatory and is part of a student's grade.

When

- The current year's times and dates for practices and games will be announced through e-news and on the BPA calendar on the Ballard Performing Arts website, www.ballardperformingarts.org.
- Most games are between the hours of 5 and 11 p.m.
- Call Time is when the student needs to be at BHS. This is usually approximately 2 hours before the football game begins. Games start at either 5:00pm or 7:45pm and last about 2.5 hours. Sometimes they run long.
- There is an intensive weekend long "band camp" the first weekend after school starts where students learn the basics of marching, as well as much of the music that will be played at football and basketball games.
- There are about 2-3 practices after school during the fall and at least 3-4 football games to play at (in the stands, not marching), and 1-2 parades each year. The marching band performs on the field at the Homecoming game.

Where

- Practices are at BHS.
- Games are at Memorial Stadium, 401 5th Ave N, Seattle, WA 98109.
- Students should arrive at BHS at appointed Call Time and put on uniforms before games.

How

- School buses are provided as transportation from BHS to Memorial Stadium and back to BHS.
- Students must ride the bus with the band. Parents and friends can meet students at the stadium.

How much?

- All band students must purchase an ASB card at the school activities office by the cafeteria.
- Band students do not need to pay to get into the games where they perform.
- Students do not need to bring their ASB cards with them to the games.
- Volunteer adults who ride on the bus with students also do not have to pay admission.
- Admission is charged for all others to attend and CASH ONLY is accepted. No credit cards.
- Parking for parents/family/friends is available for a fee in the lot in front of the stadium.

Details!

- Students need to be wearing their black band t-shirt and long black socks with their marching band uniforms.
- Students wear their full marching band uniforms whenever they perform. They should leave the school in full uniform and return to the school in full uniform.
- Marching Band uniforms are stored at BHS. Students change at school before and after each event.
- Some students like to wear shorts or leggings for speed and modesty while changing.
- The Band sits in their own section in the stands, separate from other students and parents. There are many parent volunteers there to supervise and assist.
- The band plays in the stands at all home football games at Memorial Stadium.
- The Homecoming Game is the only time the band marches on the field. Do not miss this show!
- Games often start late and end past estimated time. A 7:45 game start may mean the students are not back until 10:30 or 11pm. Plan with your student to call/text you for pick-up when they are on the bus headed back to BHS.
- For games that start at 5:00pm, student may either eat beforehand or buy food at the concessions stand at the stadium. Be careful! Any stains from eating need to be dry cleaned at student's own expense.
- If a game starts late, the band members are to wait outside of the stands until the game is over and the previous school's band has left the stands.
- Upon returning to school, students need to change out of marching uniforms and hang them up properly before going home. Properly means pants and jacket on hanger, shoes, gloves and hat in garment bag and the bag zipped up.
- Seniors get to check in their uniforms first! After the seniors, all other band members line up for check in.
- With 180 students, the Boosters need parent help with uniform check in, check out, and at the game! Donations of bottled water are also greatly appreciated. Please email Jen if you can help out. BPABbandrep@gmail.com