

MINERVA HIGH SCHOOL



BAND HANDBOOK

MINERVA LOCAL SCHOOLS
MINERVA BANDS
CONCERT MARCHING JAZZ

What To Expect for 2026-2027

Band Camp this year will be hosted at the former West Elementary Building, US30, East Rochester, OH 44625. This will provide us indoor, air conditioned practice spaces, a full kitchen, and much better parking! We will have practices from Noon to 9:30pm Monday through Thursday the week of August 3rd. A snack and dinner will be provided by the band boosters each day. We will have an evening activity each night which should wrap up by 9:30pm.

All students interested in participating in marching band **must** complete a tryout by the end of the school year with a band director. RG Drage and Post-Secondary students interested in auditioning for squad leader or section leader need to sign up for an after school tryout time in the Minerva High School main office.

Please take note of the Band Code of Conduct included in this packet which includes an attendance, tobacco and chemical policy. This has been board approved and is similar to the Athletic Code Of Conduct. These policies and consequences will remain in effect this coming season.

The Final Forms signup **must be completed by the last day of school**. All fees must be paid before the start of band camp.

Concert band students not participating in marching band will have study hall first semester during marching band season. Concert Band band rehearsals will begin second semester in November.

Please review the enclosed schedule and notify Mr. Maxey directly as soon as possible about potential conflicts at his e-mail maxeyd@minerva.sparcc.org. You can also call the band office at 330-868-4134 x1220. Also include information regarding special arrangements for summer practices including late arrivals or other conflicts such as athletics.

Marching Band Tips & Reminders

- Posted practice times are when practices or runthroughs begin. Plan to arrive early to assemble your instrument, walk to the practice field, etc. Band room will usually be unlocked around 30 minutes before the posted time.
- If you're planning on your student staying after school and waiting until the start of practice, know that there will not be a chaperone present until 30 minutes before the posted time.
- All uniform parts (including shoes and gloves) should be kept in the uniform room, and personal items (including hats, sunglasses, and clothing items) can be stored in students' instrument cage. Items left out will be placed in the band lost and found for two weeks, then donated to charity.
- **Face paint should not be worn with the uniform unless preapproved for the entire band by the director for special occasions such as senior night, glow show, awareness months, etc.**
- Only Minerva or Minerva Band shirts should be worn under the uniform. Failure to wear the proper shirt will prevent you from taking off your jacket during third quarter.

Band Fees

Band fees are used to keep our uniforms clean throughout the season and pay for band polos, gloves, and uniform bags as well as other items needed to repair the uniforms.

Funds are also used to help repair instruments, order music and pay fees associated with Solo & Ensemble and Large Group Contests and Festivals.

First Year Marching Band	\$210
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Upperclassmen Marching Band	\$150
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*Due before band camp.

Non-Marching	\$20
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*Due no later than Oct 1st.

The Uniform

Make sure you have all of the following uniform parts before an event:

- jacket
- pants
- black shoes
- black socks

Marching Band Only

- spats
- gloves
- overlay
- hat

After an event...

Hang all parts of your uniform properly and put in garment bag.

Take home, do not leave in band room.

At home, take out of garment bag and hang each on separate hanger to air out.

Let any mud dry and brush off.

Gloves, spats and collar liner should be washed after every performance.

Students will be held responsible for the cost of repairs to damaged uniforms. Lost items will be charged to your account. Replacement parts cost the following:

Jacket - \$263	Hat - \$54	Gloves - \$4
Pants - \$133	Tuba Berets - \$12	Socks - \$3
Overlay - \$126	Spats - \$10	Shoes - \$25

******Wear flannel or cotton shorts or pants under the uniform along with a neutral color t-shirt, NO Jeans or shirts with collars under the uniform

Cleanings

The band uniforms are dry cleaned three times a year. Cleaning dates will be announced and uniforms should be turned in on time. Students who miss the turn in may be asked to deliver the uniform to the cleaners on their own time. If the uniform becomes too dirty between cleanings, the directors will decide if a cleaning is needed at your expense.

Summer Marching Band Information

What You Will Need For Practices

- tennis shoes (no sandals!)
- a pencil
- your instrument
- music (provided by Mr. Maxey)

What You Will Need To Buy For Performances

- black socks
- black shorts (also bring to band camp)

Things to Remember

- Arrive 10 minutes early to all practices so you are prepared to begin at 8am
- Keep your music in your binder
- Stay on school property during band practice time
- Have fun!

Summer Practice Schedule

June 9	Homecoming Parade Practice	5:30-6:15pm
June 10	Summer Homecoming Parade	5:30pm
July 27	Rookie Practice (First Year Members Only)	8AM-Noon
July 28-30	Full Band Practice	8AM-Noon
Aug 3-6	Band Camp (at West Elem.)	Noon-9:30PM
Aug 10-12	Full Band Practice	8AM-Noon

After School Dress Rehearsal Practices

There will be one evening “dress rehearsal” practice per week. Date and time TBA.

Home Events

Arrival time for all Home Varsity Football Games is 6:00pm.

2026 Marching Band Events

Practice/Depart/Return Schedule

The band room/building will be unlocked one half hour prior to the posted practice times. If a student is dropped off earlier than that, or asked to wait after school until practice starts, there will not be adult supervision or a chaperone present. *Departure and Return Times are approximations and may be subject to change depending on game length and traffic conditions.*

Date	Event	Practice	Depart	Return
8/8	Carnation Parade		8:00am	
8/21	Home Game	6:00pm		
8/28	Away vs Springfield	5:00pm	5:45pm	11:00pm
9/4	Home Game vs Sandy Valley	6:00pm		
9/5	Carrollton Band Show	5:00pm	5:45pm	
9/11	Away Game @ Marlinton	5:15pm	6:00pm	10:30pm
9/18	Homecoming Game	5:15pm		
9/19	Minerva Glow Show	8:00pm		
9/25	Home Game vs Salem	6:00pm		
10/2	Away Game vs St. Thomas	5:15pm	6:00pm	10:30pm
10/9	Home Game vs West Branch	6:00pm		
10/10	Buckeye Trail Band Show	4:30pm	5:15pm	11:30pm
10/16	Away Game @ Howland	4:30pm	5:15pm	11:00pm
10/23	Away Game @ Carrollton	5:30pm	6:15pm	10:30pm

BAND CAMP WEEK ITINERARY

12-3PM Full Band Practice

3:00PM Snack/Break

4:00PM Sectionals

5:30PM Dinner

6:30PM Full Band Practice

8:30PM Evening Activity

Monday - Capture the Flag

Tuesday - TBA

Wednesday - Talent Show Night

Thursday - Senior Night Bonfire

Game Day!

The Marching Band takes pride in being the #1 supporters of our varsity football team. Here are a few tips to help the band work most effectively at these events:

“If You’re On Time You’re Late”

Plan for the unexpected and always arrive early to all marching band events. You never know when you’re going to run into traffic, car trouble, or may have to go back to get something you forgot. Plan on arriving at least 10 minutes early than the posted time.

Stay On The Job

At games we have a job to do: performing great music to encourage the team and the fans. Stay at your post in the stands with your instrument, always ready to play at a moment’s notice. Please tell non-marching band friends you will talk to them 3rd quarter, they are not permitted in or around the band stands.

Uniformity Is The Key

The special part about the marching band is the uniform nature of it’s members. The uniform is formal attire. Make sure long hair is pinned up when wearing the hat and please no face paint or over-sized piercings.

Respect

All band staff and chaperones should be treated with respect. Students who break band rules will lose their third quarter privileges.

Field Clean Up

Our biggest fundraiser of the year is the home football game concession stands. Part of this fundraiser involves cleaning up the stadium on the Saturday after each game. Every band member is required to participate in this fundraiser once per year. The responsibility is split up so each band member is only responsible for attending one Saturday. Please note that participation is required for students to receive full credit for marching band, a Physical Education Waiver and receiving a letter for marching band.

Please mark this date on your calendar, and notify Mr. Maxey immediately of potential conflicts.

Field Clean-Up Schedule

Drum-Line - First Home Game
Seniors - Second Home Game
Juniors - Third Home Game
Sophomores - Fourth Home Game
Freshmen - Fifth Home Game

Fill out your Band forms online!



All Minerva High School Marching Band forms should be filled out online. Either scan the following QR Code or find the link at prideofminerva.com.

Note: A parent or guardian **MUST** be present when filling out forms to complete the online signature and fill out an important form regarding band boosters.

Stay Informed!

For news and update notifications, download the official “Minerva Local School District” app on iPhone or Android

Follow @prideofminerva on Facebook!

Go to prideofminerva.com and enter your e-mail to receive updates via e-mail.

Go to prideofminerva.com/calendar to view an updated, complete band calendar. Click the blue “+” plus sign to add it to your personal Google Calendar.

BAND RULES, REGULATIONS, AND POLICIES

A.) ATTENDANCE POLICY

I. Students in marching band are required to attend all practices and performances to be eligible for participation. Students who miss practice for an unexcused reason will be ineligible to perform at that week's football game or band show. Excused absences include personal illness or death in the family. Excused absences may also include involvement in other school-related clubs, sports or activities including personal involvement in county fairs. All excused absences are at the discretion of the directors and must be submitted promptly in writing by a parent or guardian. Multiple unexcused absences and the student will be denied the opportunity to participate in marching band activities for the remaining school year. Students who miss a football game or band show for an unexcused reason will be ineligible to perform at the following week's football game or band show. Multiple unexcused absences from performances will lead to removal from the marching band.

B.) CHEMICAL/VAPING POLICY

Students in marching band will be required to submit to a random drug screen to be eligible for participation. The goal of this policy is not to "catch" students using illegal chemicals but to help students have additional compelling reasons not to use chemicals.

The drug screening will be administered two times during the fall season. Should a student test positive for the presence of an illegal substance, the band code of conduct will be followed. Should guardians request an appeal, a second test can be administered at the guardian's expense. The school district reserves the right to reject the results if the administration of the second test is not conducted by a school-approved provider. There will not, however, be an abeyance of consequences while waiting for the results of the second test. The consequences may be removed when the clean results of the second test are approved.

I. Possession of, use, or under the influence during activity of, or testing positive for an illegal substance:

A. First Offense

If the student was in possession or under the influence during practice or a performance, the student will be denied the opportunity to participate in the event for its duration and will be suspended from school for a period of 10 days.

If the student is not in possession of, or under the influence of, but tests positive for an illegal substance in their system, that student will be denied the opportunity to participate in the activity for the duration of the season. In the event the student agrees to a professional assessment (at personal expense), and that student successfully participates in an insight program, he/she will experience a reduced consequence; denying participation in that activity for 10% of the scheduled performances. In the event 10 percent of the events are not remaining, denial of participation will carry into the next season in which the student

participates. In the event there are no performances remaining in a student's career, as in the case of a senior, out-of-school suspension will be administered.

B. Second Offense

The student will be denied the opportunity to participate in the activity for the remainder of the season and the student could be suspended from school for a period of 10 days (possession of or under the influence).

In the event the student agrees to a professional assessment (at personal expense), and that student successfully participates in an insight program, he/she will be denied participation in marching band for 30 percent of the scheduled performances. The guidelines for denial of participation will be the same as stated in (A,2).

C. Third Offense

The student will be denied the opportunity to participate in marching band activities for one calendar year.

D. These offenses will accumulate during their entire high school band participation.

B.) TOBACCO USE/POSSESSION

Any confirmed violation of this policy will result in immediate disciplinary action. Possession or use of a tobacco product at any time during the season will result in the following:

A. First Offense

The student will be denied the opportunity to participate in the activity for its duration and could be suspended from school for a period of 10 days.

In the event the student agrees to successfully participate in a smoking insight group, he/she will be denied the opportunity to participate in marching band for 10 percent of the scheduled performances. In the event 10 percent of the performances are not remaining, denial of participation will carry into the next season. In the event there are no performances remaining in a student's career, as in the case of a senior, out-of-school suspension could be administered.

B. Second Offense

The student will be denied the opportunity to participate in the activity for the remainder of the season.

Same as (A,2) except the student will be denied participation for 30 percent of the scheduled contests.

C. Third Offense

The student will be denied from participating in marching band for the remainder of their high school career.

D. These offenses will accumulate during their entire high school band participation.

C.) HAZING & BULLYING POLICY

Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with and disruptive to the educational process, and prohibited at any time in the band room or at band events. No band student shall plan, encourage, or engage in any hazing. If hazing or planned hazing is discovered, the students involved shall be informed by the discoverer of the prohibitions contained in this policy and shall be ordered to end all hazing activities or planned activities immediately. All hazing incidents shall be reported immediately to the Superintendent. Students or volunteers who fail to abide by this policy may be subject to disciplinary action and may be held personally liable for civil and criminal penalties in accordance with law. Likewise, individuals who fail to abide by this policy may be prohibited from continuing their involvement and/or participation in band activities and may be held personally liable for civil and criminal penalties in accordance with law.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. This prohibition includes aggressive behavior, physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, and violence within a dating relationship. The band department and Board of Education will not tolerate any gestures, comments, threats, or actions which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm or personal degradation.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying means: any intentional written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that a student or group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental or physical harm to the other student(s) and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s); or violence within a dating relationship.

All complaints about aggressive behavior that may violate this policy shall be promptly investigated. The Building Principal or appropriate administrator shall prepare a written report of the investigation upon completion. Such report shall include findings of fact, a determination of whether acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying were verified, and, when prohibited acts are verified, a recommendation for intervention, including disciplinary action shall be included in the report. Where appropriate, written witness statements shall be attached to the report.

If the investigation finds an instance of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying/cyberbullying by an electronic act or otherwise, has occurred, it will result in prompt and appropriate remedial, disciplinary action or removal from the band program. This may also include suspension or up to expulsion for students, up to discharge for employees, exclusion for parents, guests, and volunteers.