



Sherando High School Band

2026-2027 Orientation

Welcome! Please complete the Band Registration form on the computers in the back of the auditorium!



Tonight's Agenda



- Welcome & Overview
- Student Expectations
- Marching Season
- Concert Season
- Indoor Season
- Student Action Steps
- Spring Trip Announcement
- Marching Show Announcement
- Parent/Booster Information



Class Schedule Reminder

Attending this meeting is not what adds the appropriate band class to your school schedule. Please see your school counselor to officially register for one of the following classes as applicable if you have not done so already:

- **Winds/Percussion** - Concert Band I, II, or III + Marching Band (Sem)
- **Color Guard** - make sure you are registered for Marching Band (sem) to earn a ½ credit.
 - If you play an instrument in concert season, sign up for Concert Band I, II, or III in addition to Marching Band





Programs



- Fall Marching Band (July–November)
- Fall Color Guard (July–November)
- Jazz Ensemble (including Jazz combo)
 - Audition only (After school year begins, meets before school)
- Concert Band (yearlong)
- Symphonic Band (yearlong)
- Wind Ensemble (yearlong)
- Indoor Percussion (Extracurricular, November – April)
- Winter Guard (Extracurricular, November – April)



Successes!

Some of our many accomplishments include:

- Superior rating in Marching Assessment for nine consecutive years
- 6th place overall in 2025 VMBC State Championships
- Symphonic Band – Excellent rating in Concert Assessment in 2026
- Concert Band – Superior rating in Concert Assessment in 2026
- 23 years of holding a “Virginia Honor Band” title
- 16 students successfully auditioned for the VBODA District 14 Honor Band in 2026 (9 student All-VA eligible)
- 6 students successfully auditioned for the District Jazz band in 2026
- 2026 Indoor Percussion & Winter Guard
 - Multiple top 3 placements at all regular-season contests in 2026
 - WGI debut for Indoor Percussion in 2026



Communication

How to keep informed on everything band:

- Students:
 - StudentSquare
 - Google Classroom
 - Announcement slide on Smartboard in the band room every day!
- Parents:
 - ParentSquare
 - Band Booster Newsletter (weekly - typically emailed out on Tuesdays)
- **EVERYONE:** Band Website - www.SherandoBand.org
 - ****CALENDAR!****, Registration, Music, Handbook, etc. are all located here



Student Expectations



Behavior Policy

Students must abide by the FCPS Student Code of Conduct. Some examples are not doing the following:

- Swearing
- Making lewd comments
- Acting provocatively
- PDA
- Violating bus safety rules
- Bullying
- Vandalizing school-owned or other's personal property

These behaviors will not be tolerated and will be immediately presented to school administration. Poor behavior could lead to the student being assigned ISA, being suspended, and not being allowed to participate in band activities.

We must be a good representation of our program, school, and community!



School-Owned Instrument Policies

Students in need of an instrument may opt to rent an instrument from the band's inventory if one is available.

- Student and their parent/guardian must sign the *Sherando School Owned Instrument Contract*
- In case of loss or damage to the instrument, excluding normal wear and tear, students will cover the cost of replacement or repair
- Students with contracted instruments are not authorized to share their instrument(s) with other students
- Any student caught using a school owned instrument that is not contracted to them may be subject to disciplinary action, and may be prohibited from fully participating in band performances
- When not in use, all instruments must be stored in cases. Cases must be fully latched and stored in assigned instrument lockers only.
- See the Band Handbook for more information!



Attendance Policy

Attendance for the following is required:

- **Band Camp**
- **Rehearsals outside of the school day**
- **Competitions**
- **Performances**
- **Tag Day Fundraiser**

Absence forms are available on the band website or from the band assistant and must be signed by a parent/guardian. Color Guard will fill out a Google absence form.

- **PERFORMANCES:** Must submit 4 weeks in advance
- **REHEARSALS:** (outside of the school day): Must submit 2 weeks in advance
- Work is not an excused absence. We provide calendars months in advance in order to plan.

Individual needs will be addressed as they occur, with emergency absences being handled on a case by case basis. Please schedule any outside appointments on days that do not conflict with band events.



Attendance Policy Continued

Any student who misses a rehearsal may be prohibited from fully participating in the next performance if the director and/or staff feels that the student is not adequately prepared as a result of their absence.

If a student has an unexcused absence the last school day before the weekend, that student is not permitted to travel/perform per school policy. Nonparticipation in after school rehearsals could also result in students not performing in the weekend's performance(s).



Athletic Conflicts

School policy dictates that students who participate in more than one **Sherando sponsored** activity that occurs at the same time are permitted to choose which activity they will participate in, and this does not follow the 4 week/2 week policy, **HOWEVER**, every effort should be made to plan well ahead, and communication with the director well in advance will only help everyone involved. Students **MUST** be responsible with communicating scheduling conflicts and absence forms are still required!



Grading

How are band grades earned?

- **Formative Grades**
 - Attendance, preparedness, & participation in class
 - Attendance & participation at after school/weekend rehearsals
- **Summative Grades**
 - Attendance & participation at performances including football games, competitions, parades, & concerts
 - Playing assignments
- Absence forms are available
- Alternative assignments are available on a case-by-case basis if a performance is missed
- **How is participation determined?**
 - Talking, playing out of turn, or causing general disruptions during class, rehearsal, or performance, will affect participation grade
 - Being late to rehearsal/performance will deduct points from grade



Band Fees

2026-2027 Fee Breakdown:

- **\$220** fee paid to Sherando Band Boosters helps cover the following:
 - Marching band show t-shirt
 - Band camp & tailgating food
 - Instructional staff, music, & drill designers
 - Music copyrights
 - Uniform rental & cleaning
 - Transportation
- **\$30** class fee paid to Sherando High School for ALL band members, including guard
 - Receipt of payment is required before a student can travel/perform
- **\$48** marching shoes for winds & percussion (if you do not already have a pair)
- **COLOR GUARD ONLY:**
 - **\$50** retainer fee due by May 26th (applied to total band fee)
 - **\$65** guard jacket



Band Fees

Students are responsible to pay the \$220 band fee to the Boosters, \$30 class fee to SHS, and \$48 for shoes (if needed) on a *yearly basis*. **They must be paid in full or up to date per the agreed payment plan in order for a student to be fully eligible for ANY travel or extra-curricular activities with the band** such as parades, competitions, band trips, indoor percussion, winter guard, or any District Band opportunities, per SHS administration. Non-payment could also result in limited/no use of school owned instruments and equipment.

*****Guard retainer fee of \$50 (for uniform, shoes, and props) is due by May 26th, 2026. This is applied to the overall band fee*****

Band Fees or accommodations for a payment plan are due by Friday, August 7th, 2026.

Payment plans and scholarships are available if needed.

All students/families have opportunities to fundraise the Booster band fee by using the following:

- Calendar Fundraiser (NOW through band camp!)
- RaiseRight (NOW and year-round)
- TBD Fall Fundraiser (fall 2026)



Calendar Fundraiser

Our yearly marching season fundraiser!

First \$220 raised will go directly towards band fee. Additional funds will go to the program as a whole. Full calendar will earn \$496 + bonus option! Cash or check only - no Venmo (fees are too costly)

Digital copy available on the band website.

SPONSOR MY MARCHING SEASON!

Help me fill my July calendar to pay my 2026-2027 band fee. Select a date and donate that amount. Example: July 12th = \$12

First \$220 raised will go towards the student's individual band fee. Funds raised beyond that go directly to the Sherando Band program! Bonus spaces can be a donation of any amount.

Payments accepted: cash or check made out to "SHSBBA" with student name in memo

JULY 2026

BONUS	BONUS	BONUS	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	BONUS

Student Name: _____



Payments due by Friday, August 7



Marching Season



Student Preparation

- **Wind & Percussion students**—learn and review music warm-ups and show music throughout the summer prior to band camp
 - If you are in need of renting a *school owned instrument*, please reach out to the Director or Band Assistant
- **Guard students** – continue to work on basics from spring training and attend upcoming spring & summer trainings
- **Percussion students** – attend training rehearsals in June and July. Battery Drumline members, there will likely be video assignments to turn in as well



Physicality & Health

Band is an extremely physical activity. Take care of your body NOW to prepare for Camp & Marching Season

- HYDRATE!!
- Eat healthy
- Stretch daily
- Exercise (walk/run/bike/Zumba)
- Take care of any current injuries





What to wear & bring!

- Athletic workout clothes (no jeans) & abides by FCPS dress code
- Athletic, supportive closed-toe shoes and socks for marching. **NO CROCS, Vans, Converse, slides, etc. during camps/rehearsals! THESE CAUSE INJURY!**
- Hat & sunglasses
- Water bottle
- Fully charged phone to access UDB and music
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray
- Any sort of brace/wrap/tape you may need for previous injuries





Shadow System

The shadow system is in place to fill in for students who are absent and/or continuing to develop their music and visual skills. The purpose of this system is to hold each individual student accountable as well as give students time to enhance their individual performance skills. **Any student** is eligible to **be or become** a shadow. All students in this role will have performance opportunities and this will be communicated by the director to each student.

Timeline

Prior to Band Camp

- Placements pre-determined by staff prior to band camp based on the following:
 - Attendance at new-member spring workshops
 - Band registration completed by 5/28/26
 - Absence forms received for band camp and/or fall competitions
 - Previous history of attendance for current band students (rehearsals & performances)
 - Considerations include: recommendations from middle school band directors & marching band show needs

Post Band Camp

- Discussions with students after band camp about shadow status
 - Attendance during band camp and/or after school rehearsals
 - Performance dates determined as season progresses



Marching Season Rehearsals



- **Winds Only** –Primer Rehearsals Monday, 7/13 & Wednesday, 7/15 6-8pm, Music Camp - 7/24
- **NEW Wind Band Members & Leadership** - New member trainings 7/21 & 7/23
- **Guard & Percussion Training Camp** - July 20-23
- **Band Camp - **EVERYONE****: July 27-August 7, 7am-5pm
 - Lunch provided for the first week
 - Block Party: Friday, July 31st
 - Potluck/Parent Preview: Friday, August 7th
- **Saturday rehearsals**: August 22 & 29, September 12th (after Tag Day fundraiser)
- **After-school rehearsals**: T/W/Th 3:00-4:30pm during competition season
- **BOA Boot Camp**: Saturday, October 3rd 9am-5pm - **NO ATTENDANCE = NO BOA**
- **GUARD**: will have their own calendar/rehearsal schedule. Guard director will provide more information.

Ending time is **DISMISSAL TIME** from practice. Parents - please allow time for return from field and clean up/storage of instruments & equipment as needed.



Marching Season Performances

- **5 Home Football Games - Includes Tailgate Dinner**
 - Sept 3 (Senior Night)
 - Sept 18
 - Oct 2
 - Oct 16
 - Oct 30
 - Potential for home playoff games - stand tunes only!
- **Area Band Preview Night**
 - Monday, September 14 at Shenandoah University
- **Homecoming Parade**
 - Thursday, September 17, Main Street in Stephens City
 - No bus - must provide own transportation



2026 Competitions



September 26

Herndon Showcase of Bands

Herndon High School in Herndon, VA

October 17

Bands of America Mid-Atlantic Regional

University of Delaware in Newark, DE

October 24

Parade of Champions

James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA

October 31

VBODA State Marching Assessment

Liberty High School in Bealeton, VA

November 7

VMBC State Championships (Groups 4, 5, & 6)

Woodson High School in Fairfax, VA



More About BOA Delaware

Sherando Band will be making its debut at the BOA Mid Atlantic Regional in Delaware on October 17th. What is the significance of this!?



- **A Major Competitive Stage**
 - Performing at a Bands of America regional means stepping beyond local events and competing with top bands from multiple states.
- **A Milestone for the Program**
 - First-time participation reflects years of growth in skill, organization, and commitment from students and staff.
- **National-Level Evaluation**
 - Performances are judged by expert adjudicators, with detailed feedback on music, visuals, and overall performance quality.
- **High-Level Student Experience**
 - Students perform in a professional-style environment, building confidence, discipline, and teamwork under pressure.
- **School & Community Pride**
 - Represents the school on a larger stage and highlights the strength of its performing arts program.



Parade Performances

- **Parades:**

- Homecoming, Thursday, Sept 17th
- Winchester Holiday Parade (Late Nov/early Dec)
- Middletown Christmas Parade (early Dec)
- Apple Blossom Parades
 - Firefighters', Friday April 30th
 - Grand Feature, Saturday May 1st

Due to class schedule changes for 2026-2027, parade practices will likely be AFTER school so we can practice as a full ensemble. TBD!

Updated on band calendar when dates are confirmed. Itineraries updated a few weeks in advance (also on band calendar).





Concert/Indoor Season



Concert Band Season

- 3 ensembles
 - **Wind Ensemble** - top level ensemble
 - **Symphonic Band** - 2nd level ensemble
 - **Concert Band** - 3rd level ensemble
- Placement is determined by audition. Audition recordings are due by Friday, May 15th.
- **Failure to follow the instructions & audition requirements may impact your ensemble placement.**
- 3 Concerts + Assessment
 - See Calendar for more information!
 - **www.sherandoband.org**



Performance Schedule

- **Winter Concert**
 - December 3, 2026
- **Pre-Assessment Concert**
 - February 25, 2027
- **VBODA Concert Assessment**
 - Saturday, March 13, 2027
 - Kettle Run High School
- **Spring Concert**
 - May 2027 (exact date TBD)





Supplies Needed in Class

- **PENCIL!**
- Instrument maintenance supplies
 - Reeds
 - Valve Oil
 - Cork Grease
 - Slide Grease
- We do have a vending machine with basic supplies in the band room. Cash only.
- INSTRUMENT & MUSIC FOLDER – don't forget these!



Indoor Percussion/Winter Guard

- Opportunity to continue to grow performance, music, and equipment skills throughout winter season
- Auditions & callout meetings mid/late October
- Rehearsals begin mid November with championships in early April
- Extra-curricular activity with a separate fee (TBD). Fundraising opportunities are available.





Student Action Steps



Student Action Steps

- Please remember to fill out a the digital registration and physical medical form with a parent!
 - Stations set up at the back of the auditorium or forms available at <https://www.sherandoband.org/band-registration/>
- Start fundraising/completing calendars NOW!
- Get measured for uniforms
- Browse through season calendar and complete absence forms
- Connect with section leaders



Band Uniforms

Any rising 9th grader (winds & percussion only) that has not been fitted for a uniform top & shako (marching hat) at a new member training yet, please do not leave tonight without seeing the uniforms team in the band hallway!



**And now...a big
announcement!**



2027 Spring Trip – NYC!



WICKED

BIRDLAND

EST. 1949

"The Jazz Corner of the World"



NEW YORK CITY!

- Your winning vote in our trip poll!
- Week of March 28th for 2 nights, 3 days (during spring break). Exact dates TBD.
- Broadway Show – Wicked
- Workshop at Lincoln Center
- Birdland Jazz Club
- & more!
- Grace Note Tours (Frankie!)
 - tour guide is a former band director that will cater to things that fit what we love!