

## Remind 101

Please sign up for alerts and reminders via Remind 101! This is a great way for me to communicate with the students.

Enter this number: 81010

Text this message: @larkinband

Or visit the link: [www.remind.com/join/larkinband](http://www.remind.com/join/larkinband)

## Band Expectations

### SHOW RESPECT

Respect yourself. Respect others. Respect the band traditions, facilities, equipment, and uniforms.

### BE PREPARED

Band members are responsible for doing their best, working on their individual skills, and practicing. All equipment must be brought to rehearsals as requested.

### BE ON TIME

Students should arrive at the building 15 minutes before the rehearsal is scheduled to be ready to start on time. If you count on someone else to get a ride to practice, tell him or her the time you have to BE THERE is 15 minutes before the rehearsal begins. With this concept, you will be prepared physically and mentally to begin the rehearsal and not flying in at the last minute or late. You also will have a cushion of safety if there is extra traffic or you are running a couple of minutes behind.

# 2017–2018 LHS Band Handbook



### Items included in this Packet:

Contact Information  
LHS Bands Summary  
Band Camp Information  
Band Performance Calendar  
Rehearsal Etiquette/Dress Code  
Grading Syllabus  
Remind 101 Sign-up and Expectations  
District U-46 Attendance Policy

### Mr. Brendyn Dobbeck – Director of Bands

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Band website: <http://www.larkinhighschoolband.org>

Band Twitter Account: <https://twitter.com/LHSBand> (@LHSBand)

## LHS Band Ensembles

### Concert Band - (Non-auditioned)

Larkin High School features one Concert Band. This band meets during the 1<sup>st</sup> period of the school day and participates in all of the LHS Band functions. In the Concert Bands, much focus is dedicated to the development and furthering of technique, musicality and proper performance etiquette.

### Symphonic Band - (Upon Director's Recommendation)

The Larkin Symphonic Band is open to students based on the director's recommendation. This group is higher than the Concert Band, but lower than the Wind Ensemble, and will meet 4<sup>th</sup> period during the school day.

### Wind Ensemble - (Auditioned, need consent to register)

The LHS Wind Ensemble is the highest performing ensemble in the LHS Bands program and its members are selected through an audition process. The Wind Ensemble meets during 2<sup>nd</sup> hour and has a literature-based curriculum through which the students will continue to improve and refine their musical skills.

### Marching Band - (Curricular, but do not register)

The LHS marching band is comprised of all band students. Performances consist of appearances at home football games, Homecoming Parade, 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade and other community functions. Preparation for marching band includes a camp held **annually** before classes begin. Students may incur some cost as a part of marching band.

### Basketball Band - (Curricular, but do not register)

The Basketball Band appears at numerous boys and girls home basketball games. Band Students will be split into two bands; the **Red Band** and the **Blue Band**. Each band will be assigned 5 games at which they will be required to play. If they are unable to attend, they must find a person from the other band to "sub" for them, and then must attend a make-up game.

### Symphony Winds - (Curricular for Wind Ensemble, but do not register)

The Symphony Winds are a select group comprised of the top players out of the Wind Ensemble. They rehearse with the Symphony Orchestra on a weekly basis to prepare full orchestral literature.

### Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Lab Band - (Auditioned, Extra-Curricular)

Jazz band will meet before and/or after school beginning in early September and running through March. There will be more information on this topic as the school year gets started up and Mr. Dobbeck will keep the students informed.

## Syllabus

### Band Grading System

Band grades are weighted as follows:

- Performances - 65%
- Classwork/Homework/Practice Logs - 20%
- Quizzes/Tests - 15%

Band is a "performing art" and as such, much of our efforts go towards developing the students musical abilities through the preparation of performances, which then serve as a culminating event to showcase all the students have learned. Attendance is very important for these events. Here are some aspects of the music program for which attendance is expected:

- Band Camp
- All Band Concerts, rehearsals, and trips
- All Football games and marching performances
- Attendance at 5 out of 10 basketball games
- Students are required to see 1 concert per semester and write a "Concert review"

\*Conflicts happen. If there is a conflict with a date or event, please make sure student fills out an absence request form and student and guardian speak to Mr. Dobbeck prior to the event in question.

### Fundraising

In order to continue serving each student with the best possible musical experience here at Larkin, we ask and expect all students to participate in fundraising for the band program. We hold one or two fundraisers throughout the year to help support the purchase of new instruments, lower transportation costs for field trips and pay for entry fees for contests and festivals.

The Larkin Friends of the Arts is a parent organization that helps organize and run these fundraisers and are always a big help. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Mr. Dobbeck or visit the band webpage for more information.

### Fees

While we do not have a band fee, we do ask all students to provide some supplies. Also, other expenses may arise throughout the school year, but financial assistance is available when necessary.

## Rehearsal Etiquette:

**Expectations** – It is expected that all band members will follow the motto “Be Your Best” *at all times*. Here are a few notes on how to make this expectation a reality during rehearsals:

- Be silent when someone is addressing you or the group.
- Arrive on time and ready to play.
- Have your INSTRUMENT, MUSIC and a PENCIL everyday!
- Mutual respect is demanded from all of us. Respect your peers, your instruments and your instructor.

## Marching Band Uniforms

Band Uniforms are on loan from Larkin High School and District U-46. There is no charge to use these uniforms. However, each student is held financially responsible for the care and maintenance of each uniform. The loss or severe damage of a uniform may cost up to \$500, so please, take very good care of the materials.

All students will be issued a hat and hat box, pants, jacket, gauntlets, and gloves. Remember your uniform and hat number to avoid confusion. I suggest storing the number into your cell phone for reference.

## Concert Dress

### Wind Ensemble

- Boys – Black Dress Shoes, Black Socks, Black Slacks, White Dress Shirt with a tie, Black Sport Coat
- Girls – Close-Toed Black Shoes, Black pants \*NO SKIRTS\*, Black top

### Concert Band

- Boys – Black Dress Shoes, Black Socks, Black Slacks, Black Button Down Shirt, Tie
- Girls – Close-Toed Black Shoes, Black pants \*NO SKIRTS\*, Black top

## Practicing

**Expectations:** A major part of being in band is spending time developing your craft. As a result, practice time will be monitored and graded. In Concert Band and Symphonic Band, every student must practice 120 minutes per week, then turn in a practice log signed by a parent for a grade. The Wind Ensemble students do not need to turn in a practice log.

## Instrument Rental

If a student needs to rent an instrument from Larkin, he/she will have to submit a District U-46 rental agreement along with payment of \$65. Financial assistance available upon request.

## Marching Band

Marching band is a curricular ensemble that runs from August through the end of the football season (typically mid October). Please refer to the band website for band dates and times. This ensemble rehearses during the band camp, the school day, and once a week after school for the duration of the season. Note that attendance at band camp is expected for all members, including incoming freshman. If for some reason you cannot attend, please notify Mr. Dobbeck as soon as possible.

### Required Materials for Marching Band Camp/Performances

- Pencils
- Sunscreen
- Sensible apparel for prolonged exposure to the sun
- Water
- Instrument (school rentals available)
- Flip Folio (not drumline) and Lyre (not drumline)
- Black Marching Shoes (see marching band order form)
  - Black dress shoes may suffice, but please no black athletic shoes

*\*If you are able/willing to donate any snacks or drinks for the band during camp, please email or call me in advance of Monday the 31<sup>st</sup> so we can plan them for the week.*

### Alternate Policy

The marching band will operate with an “Alternate System”. This means that not all students will regularly march during halftime. Alternates will be determined through multiple evaluations of attendance, as well as musical, visual, and intangible criteria (such as attendance, preparedness, attitude, etc.). Students will be notified in advance of an approaching assessment to give them time to prepare. The students who are selected as alternates will march pre-game and are still expected to attend all rehearsals and performances. They may also earn their spot on the field back through improvement on the deficiencies of the aforementioned criteria.

This system will allow the band to encourage a strong work ethic and a willingness to improve. Furthermore, the alternate system enable the band to make amends for illnesses, absences, or injuries.

### Policy for Being Exempt from Marching Band

Since marching band is curricular in U-46, all band members must participate. Exceptions are for varsity cheerleaders, Poms members, and football players. All other conflicts must be handled on a case-by-case basis. Please note that there is flexibility and we can find a way to include your student in band regardless of conflicts. Students who do not participate in marching band will be required to provide assistance to Mr. Dobbeck during the school day, as well as to undergo supplemental performing assignments.

## Larkin High School Band Calendar: 2017-2018

**\*Please put these on your calendars as soon as possible!**

**\*ALL band events (including out of school rehearsals) can be found on:**

**www.larkinhighschoolband.org** \*Times and dates subject to change\*

### Band Camp Schedule:

July 31– August 4: 8:00 AM – 4:00 p.m.

\*This camp is for: All Drumline, Color Guard, and Freshman and Sophomore woodwind and brass players. **No or Jrs./Srs wind players.**

August 7 - 10: Full Band Camp: 8 AM – 4 p.m.

\*This camp is for ALL BAND MEMBERS

Thursday, August 10

\*4:30 p.m. Parent Preview @ LHS

### Marching Band Performances:

\*All football games are at Elgin HS football field - Memorial Field.

Friday, September 1: (LHS Call time 4:45 p.m.) vs. Maine West

Friday, September 8: (LHS Call time 4:45 p.m.) vs. St. Charles North

Friday, September 22: (LHS Call time 4:45 p.m.) vs. Geneva

Friday, September 29: (LHS Call time 4:45 p.m.) vs. Streamwood

\*HOMECOMING\*

Assembly 1:00 p.m./Parade 2:30 p.m

Wednesday, October 11: U-46 Marching Band Festival (LHS Call time 3:30 p.m.). Will return around 9:00 p.m. Hosted at Elgin HS

Friday, October 13: (LHS Call time 4:45 p.m.) vs. Batavia (Band and Color Guard Senior Night)

Thursday, November 23: Combined U-46 High School Marching Band in McDonald's Thanksgiving Day Parade in Chicago

### Marching Band Rehearsals:

Monday, August 21: 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Monday, August 28: 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 5: 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Monday, September 11: 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Monday, September 18: 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Monday, September 25: 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Monday, October 2: 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 10: 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

### Color Guard and Drumline Rehearsals:

Will be scheduled as needed in addition to Marching band rehearsals.

### Basketball Band Game Tentative Schedule:

#### Blue Band:

- December 12 – 6:30 Call Time: Boys vs. St. Charles East
- January 9 – 6:30 Call Time: Girls vs. Batavia
- January 19 - 4:30 Call Time: Girls vs. Elgin
- February 6 - 6:30 Call Time: Girls vs. St. Charles North
- February 16 - 6:30 Call Time: Boys vs. St. Charles North

#### Red Band:

- December 1 – 6:30 Call Time: Boys vs. Streamwood
- December 14 – 6:30 Call Time: Girls vs. Streamwood
- January 16 – 6:30 Call Time: Boys vs. Batavia
- January 19 - 6:30 Call Time: Boys vs. Elgin
- February 2 - 6:30 Call Time: Girls vs. St. Charles East

### Concerts and Performance Schedule:

(Concert Band and Wind Ensemble)

- December 6, 7:00 p.m. (6:20 Call Time) Holiday Concert
- March 13, 7:00 p.m. (6:20 Call Time) Winter Concert
- Saturday, March 17th, Solo And Ensemble Festival @ Streamwood High School \*Required for all LHS band students\*
- May 8, 7:00 p.m. (6:20 Call Time) Spring Concert
- Concert Band Festivals TBA
- Commencement Band at Sears' Center (Required of all LHS band excluding Seniors) - May 26th

\*Dates are subject to change with reasonable notice.

### Select Student Events:

- IMEA Auditions, October 3 (Required for VPAA Soph, Jrs, Srs)
- U-46 Jazz Showcase - February 28th @ LHS
- Disney World Band - Spring Break; Rehearsals TBA
- LHS Musical/Pit Orchestra - April 2016
- Fox Valley Music Festival, April 22-23