



DANVILLE HIGH SCHOOL BAND OF VIKINGS MARCHING BAND 2017-2018 SEASON

What is the Band of Vikings?

The Danville High School Marching Band, or “Band of Vikings,” is an all-volunteer, extra-curricular music ensemble that serves several functions in the school, community, and state of Illinois. It is composed of highly dedicated and motivated students possessing the desire to strive for a high-impact musical and visual performance at all times.

The Band of Vikings serves three main functions:

- 1) Prepare a high quality field show for competition.
- 2) Provide a spirited atmosphere on football game days

And, most importantly:

- 3) Act as good will ambassadors of Danville High School and the community of Danville

Why should I be a member of the Band of Vikings?

Being a member of the Band of Vikings is a tremendous experience on several levels. It provides students with the opportunity to perform in a quality ensemble and to be challenged both musically and physically at the same time. Few activities teach you as many concepts at once as the marching band. As a member, you will learn to improve yourself in the areas of musicianship, social interaction, team building, physical coordination, and discipline.

As an incoming freshman, the band provides the chance for you to make new friends and familiarize yourself with Danville High School before the first day of school. The upperclassmen are extremely willing to help out their fellow band members find classes, find lockers, help with homework, and any other problems you may encounter along the way. *You will find out very quickly that the Band of Vikings is a family!*

If that wasn't enough, you qualify for a P.E. waiver with your participation in the Band of Vikings. Bonus!

What if I don't know how to march?

Don't worry about it, we will teach you! The Band has a number of top-notch instructors along with experienced veterans of the Marching Band. Before you know it, you will be a marching machine!

Do I have to audition to be in the BOV?

Those wishing to play percussion and Color Guard have a clinic/audition in the spring. There is no audition for brass and woodwind players. If you are a member of the DHS music department, we have a spot for you. Wind players must be enrolled in a curricular band class; percussionists and guard may be in orchestra or choir as well.

What time commitments are involved?

Rehearsals are generally Mondays and Tuesdays and Thursdays. We also have practices on a few Saturdays. We perform at all home football games and four to five competitions. As a member of the band, we expect the commitment from you to attend all performances and band camp, as the success of the ensemble depends on the contributions of everyone. In addition, your attendance at rehearsals is vital to your success because new material will often be learned. This is a team activity in which all members are essential. All members have a place and a function in creating a complete performance. A tentative marching band schedule is available on the band website at www.bandofvikings.org. A finalized schedule will be available as contests and events are confirmed.

What can I expect at Band Camp?

Band Camp is our opportunity to work together before school starts to begin preparation of our competitive Marching Band show for the season. Almost all of the competitive bands in the country have some sort of “band camp” format. In our case, the objective will be to vigorously develop our musicianship, color guard work, marching fundamentals, and drill during camp. This will help to make the season as successful as possible. Additionally, there is a tremendous amount of personal growth and group camaraderie that comes out of an experience like Band Camp.

Although they are held during the summer, Band Camp rehearsals are *REQUIRED*. Much time is spent preparing for these rehearsals, and money is spent to hire special clinicians. Therefore, it is necessary that each band member attend. Band Camp does involve some hard work, but we ensure that there is plenty of fun to be had along the way! We understand that sometimes there are scheduling conflicts that cannot be solved, and we would like you to call and discuss with us any concerns that might arise. We will do our best to work with you as long as we can have open lines of communication and that you understand this activity is extremely important to our success.

What is the attendance policy?

You are expected to attend everything on the schedule. It is imperative that all band members attend all rehearsals. The entire band is affected by one missing member. Any student with two unexcused absences from rehearsals will not receive a P.E. waiver. The following is considered an excused absence for a rehearsal:

- 1) The student was absent from school and the absence was excused.
- 2) The parents notified Mr. Krapf of a conflict with at least three days notice and Mr. Krapf excused the absence.

It is incredibly important that all band members attend performances. If a student receives one unexcused absence from a performance, they will not receive a P.E. waiver. The following absences will be considered excused:

- 1) Illness/death of immediate family member/wedding on the day of the performance
- 2) The parents notified Mr. Krapf of a conflict with at least two weeks notice and Mr. Krapf excused the absence.

Other elements regarding attendance policy:

- 1) Two unexcused tardies equal an unexcused absence.
- 2) Being over a half hour late to a rehearsal equals an absence. However, if you are late for a legitimate reason, your absence would be excused. All tardies to rehearsal due to a school related issue/activity must be approved by Mr. Krapf prior to the rehearsal. The coach, teacher or sponsor must write you a pass for rehearsal.
- 3) If you receive five excused absences, you will not receive a P.E. waiver
- 4) If you receive three excused absences and one unexcused absence, you will not receive a P.E. waiver.

What if I have a conflict with a rehearsal or performance?

We all realize and understand that sometimes, unavoidable conflicts occur, especially with other school events and activities. The Danville High School Band Program have a very good working relationship with the Administration, Athletic Department, and the Faculty, and we are always willing to work together to compromise on conflicts. Use the calendar as well as the calendar in your other activities well in advance to help anticipate and avoid conflicts. We know it is difficult to find an make appointments (dentist, doctor, etc.) that work for everybody, but we ask that you try your hardest to avoid scheduling those things during band rehearsal. The Band Department respects your time and will rarely change the schedule. In return, please respect the Marching Band’s rehearsal and performance times and make it a point to be at every rehearsal from beginning to end. If a conflict arises, solutions can be worked out with advance notice on a case-by-case basis. We want to work with all of the students to help them resolve conflicts, and help each student become more organized in scheduling their busy lives. Parents, please help us do this by keeping an open line of communication with the Band Department and help your students anticipate potential conflicts.

How much does it cost?

The fee for marching band is \$175.00. This fee is the foundation of our Marching Band Budget. There is an additional color guard fee of \$30.00 for additional costuming and materials. BOV members are also asked to buy specific marching band shoes (ordered through us) that will cost approximately \$35.00 and a BOV “summer uniform” polo shirt for \$30. These are potentially a one-time purchase (depending on individual growth). This marching band fee funds the vast majority

of our materials and activities for marching season and it must be paid by the first day of band camp. Special arrangements for payment of fees can be made with discussion with Mr. Krapf and the instrumental music booster treasurer. Please note that upon signature of the commitment form, payment of this band fee is expected and it is non – refundable.

When are the marching band forms due?

The commitment form and initial payment is due to Mr. Krapf or Mr. Klett on or before Friday, May 19th. Please return the form on time. The show must be written for a precise number of students, and therefore we must know our numbers at that time. If you have questions or concerns regarding this, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Krapf by phone or email.

I hope this has answered your questions about the 2017-2018 season for the Danville High School Band of Vikings. Please consider taking up this tremendous opportunity. We need you! If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Krapf:

Ryan Krapf
Director of Bands, Danville High School
krapfr@danville118.org
217-444-1541
www.bandofvikings.org