

Hello and welcome back to BHS band! I am very excited to start this year, we've picked some great halftime shows, and you are going to be an awesome band. Our traditions of excellence, dedication and pride have been noticed, and we will continue to better our performances and make the band one of the most well-loved organizations at Byron High School. You have a very unique privilege of being a part of one of the largest student groups in the high school (over 110 members), and the best band program in the conference and surrounding area. I am confident that we will continue to move the program in a positive direction and keep the high performance standards. Students only need to remember to be polite, prompt, prepared, productive, precise and positive and to apply the life lessons we've learned from camp, and this will be a fantastic year for everybody.

There are lots of important pieces of information in this handbook, please read it all carefully. Return the order form and acceptance form, write the dates for the year on your calendars and familiarize yourself with the policies. Please find the Grading Policy, Concert Dress Code, Marching Band Expectations, Schedule, Order Form and Acceptance Form in this packet. The orders with checks made to Byron High School, along with the signed acceptance forms need to be returned to me by Mon, August 21.

Please check the band website regularly for updates, performance and rehearsal times, pictures, homework assignments, etc. www.byronhighschoolband.weebly.com This is the best way to find out information about upcoming events in band, check here before you text me. There is a spot on the weebly site where I will be posting videos and pictures from our performances, so on the acceptance form I have included a line where I'd like you to let me know if you do not want your son or daughter's pictures posted on this page. Last year you may remember that I sent email updates, and I still plan to do that, but more information will be on the website, so check it often. Students will also be required to subscribe to the text message remind service, by texting @bhsband16 to 81010.

This is not a trip year, our next Disney trip will be in June of 2019, more information will be coming on that next year. Your funds raised during this year will go towards that trip.

If you need to contact me at any time during the school day, email is best. I'll be teaching in all 3 buildings this year, and I'll do my best to check email and respond promptly. Because of this schedule and the fact that the bands are the biggest they have ever been and I'm teaching over 350 students, I will be looking for some parents to help regularly with band maintenance. This will mostly involve making copies and counting fundraisers, which are both easy but take time. Please let me know if you're interested in helping, it will be much needed and appreciated. I'm looking forward to a great year of music making and I know the band is going to be as great as always!

Hinterhalt,

Natalie Haas

nhaas@byron226.org

GRADING POLICY

Grades for Band at Byron High School are based on the following criteria:

- Participation at all scheduled events so assessment of progress can be determined
- Attitude, effort, and cooperation at all times
- Ability to perform music and marching assignments
- Degree of improvement
- Comprehension of musical and marching concepts
- Written assignments
- Periodic playing tests
- Performance Opportunities in non-mandatory activities

The final exam is worth 20% of the Semester grade and will have a written and playing component.

ABSENCE POLICY

The loyalty of our members is key to our success. Each person contributes uniquely to the success of the whole group. Time management can be a challenge for our busy students and families, and it is important that they understand that regular attendance to performances is necessary everyone. It is important that students learn to make wise decisions concerning their time and commitments. Members are expected to participate in ALL assigned band activities. It is never “OK” to be tardy.

Any time a student expects to miss a band event, parents should email or send a note explaining the absence. Excused absence status may be granted on a *very limited basis* for the following reasons:

- Illness
- Family emergencies
- Conflicting school events

WORKING STUDENTS..... Occasionally working students may find that their band and job activities conflict. Experience proves that these conflicts are almost always the direct result of poor planning and communication on the part of the student/employee. Band activities are scheduled well in advance to allow working students a chance to coordinate schedules with their employers. Bring a copy of the band schedule to the person who makes the work schedule. A job that does not allow flexibility to participate fully in the band program is the wrong job for a Byron High School band member, and is never an excuse to miss a scheduled band event when two weeks’ notice is given.

CONCERT DRESS CODE

This year for our stage performances everyone will be required to wear black and white. Options for this can include black dresses, black suits, black pants and a white shirt, etc. No stripes or animal print. Ladies may only wear skirts or dresses if they are below the knee. Looking professional and cohesive as a group improves our performances.

MARCHING BAND PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS 2017

- Pants should be snapped and pressed to rest at the shoe top with no buckle in the leg crease. The pants are new this year and are machine washable, so the dry cleaning cost has gone down because it will only be necessary for the jacket. You will turn in your pants at the end of the year after you have washed and ironed them.
- Black socks – crew length – are required. Ankle socks are not acceptable. No skin can be showing on the leg when you are sitting.
- Come dressed in your marching bibs. You are not allowed to dress here, except getting your jacket zipped and putting hats on. Absolutely no one is allowed to leave their uniform anywhere in the band room. This room can not be your closet and you are all responsible for your own pieces of equipment. I will not help you if you can't find it, so be responsible.
- Arrive early so you are ready to begin warm-up exercises at 6:15 pm. Attendance will be taken at 6:15 pm for Friday night performances.
- Black marching shoes must be cleaned of all dirt and grass.
- Cape should be free of wrinkles, which is why it must be stored hanging and not crumpled in your trunk. If your cape is wrinkly, you will lose the privilege of wearing it.
- The hat should be worn flat on head with long hair pulled up and off forehead, neck and ears.
- Jewelry of any kind is not allowed. This includes nose rings.
- You may wear a jacket or coat over your uniform on cold evenings. (just not during halftime)
- The band will play through warm up scales and exercises, followed by marching tunes.
- Wind and percussion players will leave by section to tune. Follow your section leader and listen to where they will gather to tune.
- After tuning, proceed to your numerical spot in the "Snake."
- Follow the leader to your spot for the Pregame tunnel to play "Eye of a Tiger" while team runs through.
- Everyone must sit in like instrument sections in the bleachers. Percussion will be in the front center row on the front bleachers, with the rest of the instruments sitting in sections exactly the same as the pep band bleacher seating arrangement.
- Remain in your sections in the bleachers throughout the first half. We will play a lot while we are in the bleachers for the first and second quarter of the varsity game. Leaving the bleachers will be on an as needed, emergency only, basis. We are there to play for the team, and we need to be ready on a moment's notice to play.
- Prepare for halftime by tuning with sections and moving to general start area.
- Perform an awesome halftime show!
- After the show, pick up belongings from bleachers and return to band room. Put equipment away, and pay attention to the care and hanging of your uniform. The band room will NOT be open after the game and your uniform must go home with you, so plan accordingly.
- At the end of the season you will turn in your flip folder, music and lyre. Anyone not turning these 3 things in will be subject to a \$15 replacement charge. Also, you will be responsible for replacing any music that you lost. Just don't lose it.

2017-18 Band Calendar (Dates listed in bold are required for everyone unless otherwise noted)

August 23 Evening Band Rehearsal 7-8:30 pm

August 25 Home Football 6:15pm (spy show)

September 6 Evening Band Rehearsal 7-8:30pm

September 8 Home Football 6:15pm (rock show)

September 20 Evening Rehearsal 7-8:30pm

September 21 Homecoming Parade 4:30 (everyone who is not on a sport float)

September 22 Home Football 6:15pm (homecoming)

October 4 Evening Rehearsal 7-8:30 pm with 8th grade

October 6 Home Football (spy show with 8th grade)

October 7 ILMEA Auditions

October 8 Autumn On Parade in Oregon, time TBA (late morning to early afternoon)

October 11 Evening Rehearsal 7-9 pm

October 13 Home Football 6:15 (senior show and 5th quarter)

All Home Playoff games and state championship are required, dates TBA

November 11 ILMEA Jazz Festival, November 18 ILMEA Concert Band Festival

November 25 Stroll on State Parade (TBA)

December 7 High School Band Concert 7:30pm

Pep Band Dates are Dec 1 (everyone in attendance), Jan 11, Jan 23, Jan 30, Feb 2, Feb 13, Feb 16, all band students must attend 4 games. This will be discussed further in January.

January 15 BNC Band Festival, January 25-27 All-State Music Conference

Feb 14 Pops Concert 7pm

March 15-18 Musical

April 13-14 Organizational Contest - Symphonic Band Only (date and time TBA)

May 2 HS Band Concert 7:30pm

May 5 JAZZ Cabaret Night 7:30pm - Jazz band only

ORDER AND FEE FORM

Band jackets are cleaned every summer, costing \$10 per person. Anyone playing percussion or using a school owned instrument is required to pay \$30 for instrument repairs and maintenance. All reed players need to pay \$12 at the beginning of the year to cover the cost of reeds that I give you throughout the year. The BHS Band t-shirt will be worn on home football Fridays, and for basketball Pep Band performances. Hooded sweatshirts are optional, and also include some personalization options. We will use the same design as last year.

Please print information clearly and include sizes where necessary.

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Uniform Cleaning Fee (required of all)	\$10.00	\$10.00 _____
Instrument User Fee (required of all percussion and anyone using a school owned instrument which includes mellophones, marching baritones, bari sax and tuba)	\$30.00	\$ _____
Band Method Book (one time purchase required for all freshman)	\$10.00	\$ _____
Marching Shoes (required for all freshman and anyone who ordered new shoes; these are the shoes you picked up at camp. Regular band shoes are \$25, flag shoes are \$35.)	\$25.00/\$35.00	\$ _____
Reed Fee (required of all reed players)	\$12.00	\$ _____
BHS Band Logo T Shirt (required of all; returning members do not need to buy a new one) (shirts are 100% cotton, S,M,L,X,2XL) Size _____ (add \$2.50 for 2X)	\$10.00	\$ _____
BHS Band Logo Hoodie (optional) (includes logo and graduation year)	\$28.00	\$ _____
	Size _____ (add \$4.00 for 2X)	
	Graduation Year _____	
Instrument name on sleeve _____	\$4.50	\$ _____
Name/Nickname on sleeve _____ (no more than 10 characters per sleeve)	\$4.50	\$ _____
	<u>Total Amount Due</u>	\$ _____

Make checks payable to Byron High School and return this form and payment along with the acceptance form on the following page by Monday, August 21.

**ACCEPTANCE FORM
BYRON HIGH SCHOOL BAND**

FOR THE STUDENT....

I (_____ print) affirm that I have read and understand the Byron High School Band Calendar of Events, Grading and Attendance Policies. I further affirm that I will abide by these Program expectations as stated and accept the consequences of not doing so. I also understand that any absence from a rehearsal or performance will seriously affect my grade in band and that I am important to the success of each performance. I will also check the band website before I ask Mrs. Haas when our next performance is. I have texted @bhsband16 to 81010 so I receive all reminders and information from Mrs. Haas.

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _____ **Date:** _____

FOR THE PARENTS....

I have read the Byron High School Band Calendar of Events, Grading and Attendance Policies and will encourage my child to abide by the expectations of the program.

_____ I give you permission to post my son or daughter's picture on the band page and also on instagram. #byronhsband

_____ Please do not post my son or daughter's picture on the band page or instagram.

PARENT SIGNATURE _____ **Date:** _____

Parent Email _____

On a non trip year, priority in the concession stands goes to choir parents, but they are often looking for band parents to help. if you haven't signed up but would like to work, please indicate below if you would like to be contacted to work concessions.

_____ Phone number _____

Music Booster meetings are listed on the calendar on the website, one of the officers will send email reminders and if they are looking for help. Bands need parents, and I thank you in advance for your help with all of the various projects throughout the year. Listed below are several that we usually need help with, please indicate if you are able to help. Thank you for your help with encouraging your children to be responsible band members, and for all that you do to help this program run smoothly.

_____ 5th quarter cookie preparation and serving

_____ Band videographer or photographer. (can be many people)

_____ Fundraiser order tallying

_____ Copying and helping with band maintenance

