

Penncrest High School Band

134 Barren Road Media, PA 19063 610-627-6325

CSnyder@rtmsd.org www.penncrestband.org

August 7, 2017

Dear Band Member and Parent,

On behalf of the Roaring Lions Staff, we warmly welcome band members and band parents alike to the 2017 marching season. You will find our staff caring and committed to each member's success, and will be impressed by the quality of the organization as well as its members. In order for you to be successful, we've included some helpful tips, the conflict/excusal policy, and the camp calendar.

What You Need to Know for Band Camp:

Location: Band Camp will be held at Penncrest.

Paperwork: In order to participate in camp, we must have your medical form on file and your co-curricular agreement is to be turned in at the main office. Both can be downloaded at www.penncrestband.org.

Pre-Band Camp Preparation. Eat and sleep well, hydrate, and exercise in the weeks prior to camp. Start getting up before noon! Begin drinking more fluids two weeks before camp.

Early = On Time. 7:50 is a good time to arrive to be on time at 8:00. Give yourself time to drop your cases in the band room and make it to the attendance block before the whistle blows. Put on your sunscreen before you leave the house, not at 8AM, so it has time to work into your skin.

Parent pickup. Parents can pick up their children in the bus lane outside of the band room. We do our very best to end our practice at the scheduled time. However due to the distance we need to walk to return, amount of equipment, and your kids' walking pace, your departure times may vary.

EAT and HYDRATE before you come to camp. Your health and safety are our #1 concern. Drink lots of fluids, avoid sugars, and consume carbs before engaging in physical activity. Wear sunscreen, hat & shades, and bring a gallon water jug containing ice, water or a sports drink. Start a hydration program in the weeks before camp.

Communicate. Let your coach know you're in band, and let me know the sport you play NO LATER THAN two weeks before your camp begins. Athletes will split their time between sports and band each day, except for Monday 8/22 when rookies will be required to be in band the entire day. During the second week there will be a few conflicts during the evening practices, which we will work out individually. Talk to other band members that will be playing the same sport to work out schedules and carpooling. See page two of the calendar for more information on working out conflicts. We have all done it – the key is flexibility.

Have your instrument in working condition, flip folder, all music and lyre. In order to keep your music from being destroyed, you must have it in a flip folder. Purchase one along with a lyre that fits your instrument from any local music store. The band does not supply these items.

Download your drill, coordinates and music. Download these items from www.penncrestband.org, and print them out. Bring drill with you in a binder for the first day of camp. Your section leaders will help you make your drill binder. You will be notified when drill is available. Have your music in a flip folder with your lyre. Bring two dot markers.

Take care of your medical needs. Bring anything you need for asthma, allergies, bee stings, low blood sugar, etc. List everything on your medform. Don't wear lotions that will attract bees. You may keep inhalers and epi-pens on your person in camp.

Wear comfortable athletic footwear. You will not march in flip flops or barefoot. What we do is hard on the feet and no one wants injuries, blisters or bee stings to bring down our performance.

Bring your best attitude! This IS NOT boot camp. This IS going to be the most fun you have ever had working hard. "If it doesn't challenge you, it doesn't change you."

Lunch is on your own from 12-1. We do not provide lunch. You may bring a lunch and eat here, provided that you clean up after yourself. If you leave, be back on time. In the case of inclement weather, we will

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practice indoors. If you are driving to camp, please do not park in the numbered spots that are reserved for Penncrest staff.

Camp Schedule

(Full schedule is on the Google calendar at www.penncrestband.org)

Pre-Camp uniform fittings for winds and percussion: 8/10 5-8PM and 8/15 5-8PM

Week One

8/21 8AM – 5 PM **All band members will report to the practice field at 8AM. Make sure you have your drill in your drill binder and two dot markers.** Rookie athletes are requested to spend the first day with no sports split. We will take time in the afternoon to view the solar eclipse! If you missed your uniform fitting, we will take you over lunch or after 5PM.

8/22-25 8AM – 5PM Regular camp schedule. Sports splits begin. Thursday is Section Spirit Day! Friday is our pool party after 5PM. Directions will be provided. We will not perform at the non-league football game on Friday 8/25.

Week Two

8/28 7:30 AM Report to band room in uniform (no shako, gauntlets or gloves). Hair can be worn down as we will not wear our shakos.
8 AM Performance for RTM staff, pictures thereafter. Bring completed order form.
3 – 7 PM Evening Camp.

8/29-30 3 – 7 PM Evening Camp. Freshmen will be excused on 8/30 to attend orientation.

8/31 3-7 PM Evening Camp
7 PM Parent Preview Performance in the stadium. All are invited to see our 1st show!
8 PM First Parent Meeting. Information, chaperone and committee signups

9/1 5:30 PM Report to the attendance block for uniform inspection and warmups
Uniform includes hair up and off of the collar – get it cut that afternoon!
Tonight is our first game, away vs. Marple Newtown.

CONFLICTS WITH BAND AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

All band activities are mandatory for every band member. Band members are to arrange their personal schedules so as not to conflict with camp. It is expected that senior portraits, medical appointments, jobs and other conflicts be scheduled so as not to interfere. Unexcused absences from activities will result in no credit towards a band member's grade and shows a lack of commitment which can result in a reduced role with the band, up to and including dismissal from the group. Band members who are unable to attend band camp in its entirety are not guaranteed a spot in the show. Inclusion in the halftime show will be determined by the amount of time missed, as well as how quickly the show can be learned by the band member.

If your school sport and band practice schedule conflict, you will split your time in a way that is agreed upon by both your coach and your band director. You will not miss a game or performance for a practice. Email me and I will help you come up with a split schedule that works.

The key to avoiding and working out conflicts is COMMUNICATION. Band members are expected to handle this responsibility and honor their commitments to all organizations of which they are a member. Giving as much advance notice as possible is a courtesy that you will offer to your activity directors. Do it

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as early as possible, and ask for excusals as seldom as possible. Requests for excusal must be submitted at least one week in advance to be considered, and must include the specific reason for the request. Strive for a “win-win” where you are able to honor your commitment and make your contribution to both groups.

Questions? Email me at csnyder@rtmsd.org. GET EXCITED about the upcoming season!