



LITCHFIELD MARCHING DRAGONS

Welcome to the 2012 Marching Dragon summer season.

This year's parent's handbook will incorporate all the information you will need for the upcoming season. The goal is to provide you with important information up front so you can plan accordingly for the season. Included are:

1. Expectations of parents & students
2. Summer schedule (Parade Sites and Maps are available as the date approaches)
3. Chaperone guidelines
4. Tentative schedule for summer trip
5. Dates of the practice season – “band camp”
6. Uniform guidelines – band & color guard
7. Possible Fees associated with Marching Band

Band Website:

www.litchfieldband.com

Band Email:

David_Ceasar@litchfield.k12.mn.us

Fees for the 2012 Season

- Activity fee \$95.00 - Litchfield High School
- Band Camp \$65.00 - Band Boosters
- T-Shirt \$12.00 - Band Boosters
- Garment Bag \$10.00 - Band Boosters

Band Supplies

- Gloves \$6.00 Band Boosters
- Spats \$7.00 Band Boosters
- Band Shoes \$20.00 Band Boosters

Guard Supplies

- Color guard Shoes \$22.00 Band Boosters
- Color guard Dress (3 year purchase plan) \$35.00 Band Boosters

Optional Items

- Summer Trip to New York/Boston \$625.00 Band Boosters (Optional)

Uniform Guidelines

We will be starting the Eighth year with our new uniforms. In order to keep them in good condition, please follow these guidelines:

1. Pant length – Hemming the pants to the correct length is the parent's responsibility. Pants should be hemmed so that the bottom of the pants touch the top of the second spat button from the bottom. Marching shoes should be on, with arms in marching position. **DO NOT CUT THE PANTS.**



If you are unable to hem the pants yourself, here is a suggested name and phone number of someone who is willing to hem them for you at a small cost:

☐ Shades of Art and Alterations – Lori Kettner 320-221-4086

2. Uniforms must be hung in a cloth garment bag, on the hanger that they are issued on. The garment bags can be purchased from Band Boosters or Mr. Ceasar for \$10.00. Uniforms **CANNOT** be stored in a plastic garment bag – Uniforms tend to be very sweaty after parades, plastic will not allow the fabric to dry completely before the next parade. Band members use the “short” style; Color guard members the “long” style of bag.

3. **The only thing that is allowed to be stored in the garment bag is the Uniform.** Shoes, socks, t-shirts etc. can not be stored in the bottom or back pocket of the bag, first because they are very sweaty and smelly after parades – we are trying to keep the new uniforms in good condition for many years, also things in the bottom of the bag can be heavy, causing the bag to rip out from the bottom. Space in the trailers is also at a premium, shoes and other items in the bottom, or back pocket of the bag do not allow us to hang as many bags on each

rack. Make sure your child has a separate bag for all other items apart from their uniform. Chaperones will be checking the garment bags before they are rolled back into the trailer at the end of each parade and removing shoes, socks etc. It would be a good idea to put your child's name in the shoes.

4. Uniforms will be worn with gloves and spats; they are \$5.00/6.00 a pair. They are available from Band Boosters, and at each parade. Spats and gloves need to be washed and white. A liquid cleanser works well on the spats, and the gloves can be washed with a detergent with bleach. Do not soak them in a bleach solution, as they will yellow. It is the student's/parent's responsibility to keep the spats and gloves clean. If they are not, the student will be asked to purchase new ones. Any outstanding bill for spats or gloves purchased at parades or on the trip will be sent to the parents at the end of the season.

5. Color guard Dresses can be washed using the following procedure:
- o Turn the dress inside out
 - o Place in a pillow case and tie shut
 - o Wash on gentle cycle with 1 tablespoon of Tide detergent
 - o Hang to dry (**INDOOR**, not out in the sun – it will fade the material)

The sergeants will tell the Color guard when to wash their dresses. Since these dresses are also in their second season, by everyone washing them at the same time, we are trying to extend the length of time they will be usable.

6. Hats must be stored in the box they come in and placed on the rack in the trailer.

Band Chaperone Duties

Prior to Departure

1. Arrive at the Civic Arena approximately 15 minutes before call time.
2. Attend a brief instructional meeting for bus assignments and safety concerns.
3. Fill four coolers with ice and water
 - a. Get the coolers from the trailers at the Civic Arena, Take two coolers to Handi-Stop South, and fill each one with ice.
 - b. Split the ice to four coolers and fill all four with water from the hose on the north side of the Arena. The tables and garbage cans for the parade will be loaded on the trailer.
4. Pull out racks from trailers; supervise students loading instruments on to racks.
5. Load racks back into trailers and secure.
6. Check fanny packs for supplies: bobby pins, comb, hairspray, safety pins, Band-Aids, sunscreen, chap stick, shout wipes, scissors, valve oil, etc. More supplies are in the trailer.
7. Check with officers for other duties.

On the Bus

1. Sit in the front of the bus – two couples per bus.
2. Call off names on your bus list to be sure everyone is there; if students are absent, please make a note of it.
3. Students may bring videos (PG or PG-13 only).
4. CD's will not be played over the bus's sound system; students can bring their own CD's and headset.

Arrival at parade, prior to marching

1. Set up tables and serve water.
2. Unload instrument and uniform racks.
3. Supervise students as they get their uniforms.
4. Encourage students to be responsible for personal grooming, garbage pick-up, and respect for property.
5. Most of the girls will dress on the busses, all male chaperones and bus drivers will be asked to stay off the busses at that time.
6. Help distribute plumes and feathers.
7. Help color guard with make-up and hair if needed.
8. Help tuck longer hair under hats, pin and spray.
9. Review appearance of students while they are practicing.

During the parade

1. You will be given a position for walking with the band.
2. Watch your group closely for signs of overheating or other injury. If a student cannot continue marching, please pull them out and off to the side of the street – preferably in a shady, grassy area. Let one of the officers know, if possible. For overheating, have the student lie down, open their jacket, and take off their shoes and socks. Give them water or ice chips. Parade officials have first responders available, if needed.
3. Please try to stay off the street as much as possible – especially in the judging area. You may kneel down at a street corner or off to the side while they are being judged and catch up with them once they have completed their show. We need to be careful not to obstruct the view of the parade watchers.

After the band is done marching

1. Set up water tables and encourage all students to drink.
2. Put feathers and plumes away carefully to minimize damage.
3. Help load uniforms on to the racks, make sure they are neatly hung and that the garment bag is left unzipped to allow air drying. Be sure no other items are in the garment bag – socks, t-shirts, shoes, gloves, spats etc. If things are in the bag, take them out. A large plastic bag will be available for all of these items.
4. Help load instruments on to the racks.
5. Load racks, tables, garbage cans into trailers and secure.
6. Check area for garbage, instruments, uniforms etc.
7. Attend the awards ceremony.
8. Board the bus, and call roll. Everyone who came on your bus should ride home on your bus. The student needs to give you a written, dated, signed note if

they are riding home with their parents. They may only ride home with their parents.

Arrival at the Civic Arena

1. Pass a garbage bag around the bus for students to throw their garbage in. Students should be responsible for their own areas. Check for any forgotten items.
2. Empty coolers and put them away.
3. If any student wants their instrument, help them get it.
4. Check if anything else needs to be done.

Have a great time and get to know the kids! Thank you for your help!

Band Camp is a time when the entire band is singularly focused on the goal of becoming a competitive unit on the summer circuit. We use the campus and additional music staff to help with teaching and critique of the group. We have done fundraising this year to help cover those students who cannot afford to pay for camp. Enclosed is a tentative schedule of events for the weekend.

Marching Band Camp at Litchfield

Thursday, June 7th

Move into site: 9am
Rehearsal 10:00 – 12:00
Lunch Break
Rehearsal 1:15 - 5pm
Sectionals 1:15 - 2:00
Full Group 2:00 - 5:00
Dinner/Break 5:00pm - 6:30pm
Full Group Rehearsal 6:30pm - 8:45pm
Evening Activity/Free Time 8:45 - 11:00pm
Lights Out 11:15 (Overnight in Rooms)

Friday, June 8th

Wake-Up 7:00 am
Breakfast 7:30 – 8:30
Rehearsal 8:30 - 12:00am
Full Group Warm-Up 8:30 - 9:30
Sectionals 9:30 to 10:00
Full Group Rehearsal 10:00-Noon
Lunch Break Noon - 1:15pm
Rehearsal 1:15 - 5pm
Sectionals 1:15 - 2:00
Full Group 2:00 - 5:00
Dinner/Break 5:00pm - 6:30pm
Full Group Dress Rehearsal 6:30pm - 8:45pm
Evening Activity/Free Time 8:45 - 11:00pm
Lights Out 11:15 (Overnight in Dorms)

Saturday, June 9th

Wake-Up 8:00am
Breakfast 8:00 - 9:00am
Full Group Rehearsal 9:00 - 12:00pm

For the complete schedule of practices, see the Monthly Calendars given out.

Drum line and Color guard members will receive an additional schedule sheet of rehearsal times to be aware of. Also, be sure to check out the band website for information that might change and or be revised. www.litchfieldband.com click on the marching band tab.

April 15th is Uniform Night.
Schedule of times by last names;

Monday, May 28 – Memorial Day - All Marching Band members be at high school at 8:00am for rehearsal and march to Central Park. This is your first chance to get it down so be at your best. You will be done by 11:00am. PLEASE COME TO THE HIGH SCHOOL DRESSED FOR THE PARADE IN YOUR NEW UNIFORM WITH PANTS HEMMED.

“M&M Week” June 4-6 (Civic Arena) 7am- 12:00 noon (Music and Marching Basics)
This time we will put our show on the street for the first time and learn our marching.
Music should be memorized and ready to play for your section leader. We only have 3 days this year to get 5 days of work done so come ready to work.

“Band Camp” June 7-9 (Litchfield Lock In) 9:00am
This weekend will be dedicated to perfecting our show. Dr. Ross from the Hayes School of Music – North Carolina is flying out again this year to help us out with Music.

You must be at these rehearsals, for without you we cannot be our best. Work hard color guard, honor guard, percussion section and wind band. You will make a big difference if you are at practice working hard with positive team concepts, with a caring and winning attitude.

Rehearsals for the weeks following our first parade will be announced at practice and dependent on amount of practice needed.

Rehearsals will proceed even on Rainy Mornings

Parade Schedule:

Memorial Day Parade May 28 @ 9:15am Call time to HS is 8:00am

Albertville: Depart @ 11:00am 6-10-12 Parade time: 1:30pm

Paynesville: Depart @ 5:30pm 6-13-12 Parade time: 7:00pm

Benson: Depart @ 4:00pm 6-14-12 Parade time: 6:30pm

Lake Crystal: Depart @ 3:30pm 6-15-12 Parade time: 6:00pm

Waconia: Depart @ 3:00pm 6-16-12 Parade time: 6:00pm

Hutchinson: Depart @ 11:30am 6-17-12 Parade time: 1:00pm

Pie in the Park – Meet at Zion Lutheran 5:00pm 6-21-12 6:00pm Show

Rochester: Depart @ 3:30pm 6-22-12 Parade time: 6:00pm

Rogers: Depart @ 9:00am 6-23-12 Parade time: 12:00pm

Lake City: Depart @ 9:00am 6-24-12 Parade time: 2:00pm

Roseville: Depart @ 2:30pm 6-25-12 Parade time 6:15pm

Litchfield Watercade @ 7-7-12 Meet at High School at 5:30

Uniforms turned in after the parade. Please bring clothes to change into.

Practices:

Practices are held in the mornings between parades from 7am to 10am depending on the amount of practice needed. Summer School Students and Drivers Training Students are released from practice early to attend these events.

Parade Leave Times

Leave times will be given out in the Marching Band Packet and are typically two hours before the start time of the parade. Some variations due occur in both directions determined by distance of parade and parade placement.

WE ARE GOING TO ROCK!

Miscellaneous Things

Health forms need to be returned to Drum Major Taylor Manning no later than Monday, April 16 (Uniform Night). Students will not be allowed to march without this form on file and all fees paid.

Make sure that your son/daughter has had plenty of rest, eaten well and drinks plenty of fluids before practices and especially before parades. Hot, humid days will make this even more important!

Students should bring water to practices.

A special thanks to all of you parents for your involvement with the Litchfield Marching band program. Without each of you, our program could not continue to be successful. Enjoy watching and cheering as we take to the streets for the 2012 season.

Band Camp

June 7 (Thursday) - 9 (Saturday)
High School Facilities
Arrival and Move in Time: 9:00am

The camp will run the same way it has run in the past and will be just as fun if not more.

Things you need to Know:

1. You will not be able to go home or out at night during camp. We have activities planned for you from the time you arrive until you go home on Saturday.
2. You will be inside and outside a lot: Please bring sunscreen and clothes appropriate for Sun and Rain.
3. We will be eating, sleeping, cleaning and everything else here so bring soap, towels, changes of clothes and whatever else you might need for two days.
4. Friday night of Camp we will have our “Dress Rehearsal” and will use our full uniforms as a way to get our “pre-parade” routine in order. The band will run the show around the block of the high school using the local streets which will be open the public to view.
5. Night Activities have been planned that include swimming, Movies, outside activities. Be prepared for anything.

What to Bring:

Since we will be here at the school, anything you forgot can be brought from home if you need it. However, try to remember your basics: Toiletries, Clothes for marching, night-time clothes, sleeping bag or blowup bed, pillows, snacks if you want them (we will have plenty), medications, Plenty of socks....Music/Instrument/

GOOD ATTITUDE!