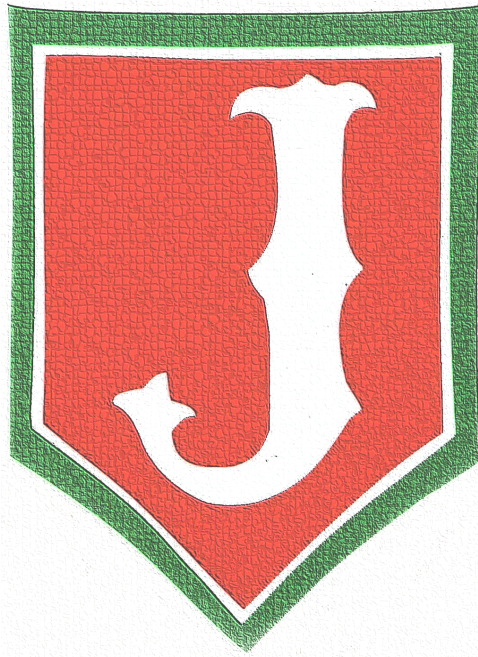


2014 NYSFBC LARGE SCHOOL 2

CHAMPIONS



JAMESTOWN HIGH SCHOOL
MARCHING BAND HANDBOOK

2015 – 2016

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JAMESTOWN HIGH SCHOOL "RED RAIDER" MARCHING BAND

350 EAST SECOND STREET

JAMESTOWN, NY 14701

WWW.JHSMARCHINGBAND.COM

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Dear Marching Band Parents and Students,

The 2015 - 2016 Marching Band season is now under way! Next week the process of learning the 2015 competitive show will begin! Please take a close look at the summer and fall schedule. Participation in scheduled rehearsals IS REQUIRED of all band students who will be a part of the Marching Band. Exceptions will be explained in the following packet of information, along with other necessary information about this organization.

Our summer program will run five weeks with some breaks to try to accommodate most family vacations and summer camps. Staff members and section leaders may also hold extra meetings for additional help with marching, music or routines.

All summer and fall rehearsals will be at Jefferson Middle School. All students are expected to report EARLY and be ready to go with all necessary items so rehearsals can begin ON TIME.

We will make every effort to adhere to the enclosed schedule. **Please plan appointments and other commitments around this schedule.** If, for some reason, we need to change a rehearsal or performance we will inform you with as much advanced notice as possible, although this is highly unlikely.

We had an **extremely** successful season last year! The staff is looking forward to picking up where we left off and making this year's band even better!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Meghan Murray". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Meghan Murray
Director of Bands
Jamestown High School

ORGANIZATIONAL PHILOSOPHY AND GOALS

The goal of the marching band program in the Jamestown City School District is to provide every child with authentic musical, social, and intellectual experiences, the purpose of which is to enrich each student's life and help them grow into people of integrity with social and cultural awareness.

ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION POLICY

Attendance is required at all rehearsals and performances, including the Holiday Parade (December) and the Memorial Day Parade (May). Marching Band is a group activity and all students are dependent on the entire group for sound as well as marching form. If someone is not there, others cannot do their job properly. Being absent does not only hurt one person, it hurts the entire group.

The following are considered excused absences from a band practice. As much advance notice as possible is appreciated. Mrs. Murray **MUST** be informed of an absence **BEFORE** it occurs with a hand-written note from the parent.

1. Death or severe injury to a family member
2. Illness of the student (doctor's note required)
3. Mrs. Murray will evaluate all other circumstances at the time they occur.

*All performances are required. If there is an emergency that day contact Mrs. Murray directly.

***IF YOU ARE IN SCHOOL YOU ARE EXPECTED TO BE AT PRACTICE!**

THE FOLLOWING IS THE PROCEDURE REGARDING UNEXCUSED ABSENCES:

1 st Unexcused Absence	=	Call home to parents
2 nd Unexcused Absence	=	Parent Conference
3 rd Unexcused Absence	=	Removal from the organization

*All members of the wind and percussion sections of the Marching Band must be enrolled in Symphonic Band or Concert Band. 8th grade members must be enrolled in their middle school band program.

ENFORCEMENT

The philosophy of the JHS Marching Band staff is that enforcement of the attendance policy should promote fairness, accountability, and the acquisition of skills missed during any absence. Therefore, if a student is late or misses a practice they may be asked to come in for extra time outside of the regular rehearsal schedule. This may mean coming in early or staying late, but could also mean coming in on a day when there is no rehearsal scheduled to work with a staff member to make up what they missed. This practice is not intended to be a punishment but rather to help teach accountability, responsibility, punctuality, as well as further each student's education.

BEHAVIOR POLICY

Band members are expected to follow all Jamestown Public School policies regarding appropriate student behavior and code of conduct. Violation of the following will be handled through existing school policy: boy/girl relationships, class cut, destruction of school property, disrespect, drugs, alcohol, fighting, gambling, knives or weapons, profanity, sexual harassment, smokeless tobacco, smoking, and stealing. In the event that existing school policy does not cover a negative student behavior, the band director and staff will evaluate behavior and appropriate disciplinary action will be determined based upon the severity of the incident and its impact on the band. Based upon the severity of the incident, appropriate school officials will be notified. Discipline may include a parent meeting with the student and director and/or removing a student from one or more performances, exclusion from trips or dismissal from the band program. **If a student's conduct during a band function or otherwise results in the student receiving OSS, that student may be removed from Marching Band for up to one full calendar year.**

CODE OF CONDUCT

The Jamestown Public Schools recognize that the use of certain substances such as tobacco, including chewing tobacco and snuff, alcohol, and other drugs is a significant health problem and illegal for many adolescents. This can have negative effects on behavior, learning, and the total development of each individual, which includes one's physical and mental abilities. Therefore, it is the philosophy of the Jamestown Public School District to forbid any student participating in the JHS Marching Band to use, possess, sell, or otherwise distribute these substances, or related paraphernalia. This code is in effect each marching season - *24 hours per day, seven days a week, on and off school property.*

During the season of practice a participating Marching Band member shall not:

1. use, possess, or sell tobacco (which includes chewing tobacco and snuff).
2. use, possess, or sell a beverage containing alcohol.
3. use, possess, or sell a controlled substance.
4. **remain in the unauthorized presence of alcohol, tobacco, or other controlled substances.**

NOTE: It is not a violation for a student to use a legally defined drug specifically prescribed by the student's own doctor.

Witness credibility in this process is highly valued. Reports of alleged violations coming from the individuals listed below (a)-(c) having personally witnessed the violation will be investigated.

- (a) Any district employee
- (b) Any law enforcement officer* or agency*, or
- (c) A parent/legal guardian of the student involved

*In such cases Mrs. Murray will take immediate action, removing the student from all band activities. Parents will be notified verbally upon such action and in writing within 3 days at which point the parents may request a conference. This decision can only be overturned by the Principal or Superintendent.

If a student or other person not mentioned above who witnessed the incident brings accusations against a student, the situation will be addressed in the following manner:

- (a) During the period of an alleged violation and the subsequent investigation, the Marching Band member will continue to participate as a full member of the band.
- (b) These reports will be considered by the Marching Band director, staff members and school principal, if necessary.
- (c) They will determine if the alleged violation has validity.
- (d) The Marching Band director and/or principal will confront the student on the alleged violation. If the student agrees with the alleged violation, the actions stated in this handbook will apply. If the student states that the alleged violation is false, the principal and Marching Band director will investigate the accusations and determine if there is sufficient justification for disciplinary actions.

ENFORCEMENT

Any violation of either the Behavior Policy or Code of Conduct is considered **Conduct Unbecoming of a Band Member**. The Marching Band director will assess each case. Disciplinary action will be taken immediately and may include suspension from competitions or removal from the organization. In the case of a suspension, the student must continue to participate in all band rehearsals and must travel with the band to all competitions and performances. All fees associated with the organization will still apply.

REHEARSAL EXPECTATIONS – BACKPACKS & WATER JUGS



This year, students will be responsible for having a backpack dedicated to marching band. This backpack will contain all of the materials needed for each rehearsal and for traveling. JHS Marching Band backpacks can be purchased for \$25 (see Form packet). This backpack must be brought to **every** rehearsal and on **every** trip. They must be used only for marching band and must contain:

Music Binder	Drill Book	Pencils (multiple)	Valve Oil/Extra Reeds
Polishing Cloth (brass)	Sunscreen	Marching Shoes/Shoe Bag	Black Socks (extra)
Sweatshirt/Jacket	Water Jug		

Squad leaders and staff will check backpacks regularly.



Every student will also be responsible for bringing a water jug to EVERY practice and on EVERY trip. It is extremely important for the students to stay hydrated. Their water jug must hold between 0.5 gallon and 1 gallon of water.

STUDENT LEADERS

Upperclassmen play a major role in the success of our program. Leadership positions include Drum Majors, Squad Leaders and a Rehearsal Coordinator. These, *as well as all upperclassmen*, are the students who have the most knowledge and experience and are instructed to share this experience with the other students in a positive and encouraging way. All students holding a leadership position are selected through an audition process.

Drum Majors

Sydney Deppas

Andrew Roof

Flute

Olivia Ricker

Clarinet

Paige Stafford

Emily Anderson

Saxophone

Nick Beach

Karsen Terry

Trumpet

Lucas Lassinger

Mellophone

Julia Bertolini

Trombone

Mackenzie Abbey

Low Brass

Cameron Lydell

Pit

Maya Larson

Mithel Smigel

Drumline

Josh Kindberg

Rehearsal Coordinator

Matthew Leon

These students are here to help!

Please contact them if you have any questions or if you need assistance!

COLOR GUARD

The color guard is an important visual aspect of the Marching Band. Color guard members are full members of the Marching Band. They must meet all requirements and are afforded all privileges related to the Marching Band. **Students who play an instrument in middle school or high school band are expected to play that instrument if they choose to be in Marching Band.** However, they are more than welcome to participate in Winter Guard. Some exceptions can be made at the director's discretion.

***Participation in Color Guard is a requirement for participation in the Express Winter Guard.**

PERFORMANCE POLICY

Students may be asked to sit out of a performance for any of the following reasons:

1. Wearing the uniform in an inappropriate manner.
2. The uniform looks unkempt, stained or wrinkled due to poor care.
3. Shoes are not properly cleaned & polished.
4. Long hair is not properly braided/pinned for the band hat.
5. Failure to remove all jewelry.
6. Not proficient with their music/drill/routines.
7. Behavior infractions.
8. Do not have their instrument/equipment.
9. Chewing gum.
11. Failure to complete and return all necessary forms.
12. Unprepared due to extended absence.
13. Unexcused absences.

TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION

Students are expected to travel with the band to and from all activities. Allowing students to travel to or from events with parents opens too many possibilities for error. As the safety of students is our primary concern we cannot allow them alternate travel opportunities.

SPECIAL TRIPS

One of the privileges of being in the Jamestown High School Red Raider Marching Band revolves around our travel opportunities. While many organizations dream about taking trips together we are in a position to make these dreams come true. It serves as positive testimony to the work ethic of our band members, and is one of the privileges we enjoy as a group.

We are enjoying the fruits of the labor seeded by your older peers. Traditionally, band members have served as positive reflections of our school and community while traveling. Our future bands are counting on you to pass on that same heritage so they will have a similar kind of learning opportunity during their high school careers.

In a travel situation, there are occasions where immediate disciplinary action would inhibit the ability of the directors to provide a safe and profitable experience for the entire group. Should this occasion arise, we will ask those in question to return home at the parent/legal guardian's expense, and the problem will be addressed immediately following the trip.

MEDICAL

Marching Band is an extremely physical activity. Students are strongly encouraged to have a physical examination before participation. All students must have a completed medical history and emergency medical release form on file before they will be permitted on any band trips.

Students that have any medical conditions (i.e. heart, breathing, or joint problems) that would restrict their ability to safely participate in all aspects of the band program will be required to have a physical and provide a doctor's release before they can be included in rehearsals or performances.

INTENSIVE WEEK

Intensive Week is just that – *intensive!* It is during this week that the band learns the majority of the competitive show. In addition to the show music, marching techniques and drills are polished. Once that week is over, our competitive season begins! Every session of every day of Intensive Week is MANDATORY for all students.

INTENSIVE WEEK CHECKLIST

1. Dress for the weather! Bring rain gear if necessary. *School dress code applies – no low-cut/strapless tank tops or short shorts permitted.*
2. Students should wear socks and tennis shoes with laces. **SHOES WITHOUT LACES, SANDALS, FLIP FLOP, BACKLESS, OR OPEN TOED SHOES ARE NOT PERMITTED.**
3. Avoid perfume, hair spray, hand lotions, creams, etc.
4. Use sunscreen!! Bring a bottle and reapply throughout the day!
5. Bring at least a ½ gallon thermos of cool water labeled with your name. There will be frequent water breaks.

Hats will be permitted if the weather requires them and if they are worn appropriately. **Hats will NOT be permitted inside or in the evening.**

COMMUNITY PREVIEW NIGHT

Thursday, August 27th

The Community Preview Night is held on Thursday night of Intensive Week. It is the premiere performance featuring the Marching Band's competitive show. Also included is the family picnic and parent meeting.

BAND BOOSTER ORGANIZATION

As the parent of a student in the marching band, *you are a Band Booster!* The Band Booster organization is a support group for the Jamestown High School Marching Band. Its primary function is to help organize and implement programs that supplement and enhance the band experience beyond what the school district can provide. If you would like to be more involved (i.e. chair an event or become an officer), please contact Mrs. Murray.

ACTIVITY FEE

The expense for participating in marching band is **\$175**. This fee covers everything your child will need throughout the season including music, drill, staff support, transportation, equipment, uniforms, and the overnight trip to Syracuse in October. This trip includes the hotel, transportation in a coach bus, admission to Championships to perform and watch, all meals and a breakfast banquet. This may be paid up front or you may pay according to this suggested schedule:

Activity Fee Payment Schedule

Monday, June 15	-	\$75
Monday, July 13	-	\$50
Monday, August 24	-	\$50
Total	=	\$175

*Please make all checks payable to JHS Band. Any fees paid after **JULY 13TH** are non-refundable.*

NO child will be excluded from participating because of financial reasons. If there are financial issues, please speak with Mrs. Murray immediately so alternate arrangements can be made early on in the season. *All fees must be in BEFORE our trip to Syracuse on October 31st.*

A \$25 BANK FEE WILL BE APPLIED TO ANY RETURNED CHECKS.

FUNDRAISING

The band personnel represent the finest students in our school; therefore, we are always looking for avenues of possibility to encourage, challenge, and reward our high achievers. They deserve the best and with the help of our parent booster organization, we can offer our band members exciting opportunities to enhance their academic, social, and musical training. This requires an additional source of revenue typically generated through a series of fund-raising programs. However, there is much more to the process than reaching the financial goal; the by-products of this effort may have more worth to all of us (students, parents, school and community) than the fiscal windfall it produces.

During a fund-raising event, a new sense of community awareness takes place as much attention is focused on the band. It would be impossible to buy the kind of positive publicity the students will receive as area band enthusiasts come forward to support our fund-raising campaign. While some parent groups may see such a project as a necessary evil, we approach it from an entirely different perspective. Fund-raising creates a forum of mutual exchange to tell everyone the good news about our band, our students and share a refreshing viewpoint concerning the youth of today who are destined to be the leaders of tomorrow. It is also a time we can “toot our own horns” and give others a chance to experience the pride that is such an important part of our band’s success.

Yes, the fund-raising efforts need to produce profitable results. **Yes**, we are counting on all those involved to come forward and contribute to this goal. **Yes**, we all need to make personal sacrifices along the way. **Yes**, it will be worth it, many times over.

ANNUAL FUNDRAISERS

1. Candy Bar Sale (2 boxes; opt out is \$50)
2. Cookie Dough/Zap-A-Snack Pizza Sale (optional fund raiser to help students pay for the Activity Fee)
3. Car Washes (no opt out available)
4. Tag Days (no opt out available)
5. Fall Festival of Bands

EXTRA FUNDRAISING

All band members are required to participate in the fundraisers listed above. If your child goes above and beyond what is expected they can earn money towards their account to help pay the Activity Fee.

Candy Bars	Every additional box sold = \$20
Car Washes	Every additional shift = \$10
Tag Days	Every additional shift = \$15

OPTIONAL FUNDRAISER

An optional fundraiser will be offered to allow for students to raise money towards their Activity Fee. This fundraiser includes cookie dough, Zap-A-Snack pizzas, cheesecakes, gifts and more. More info will be given in the coming weeks.

NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN FOR PROFITS EARNED THROUGH EXTRA FUNDRAISING.

A \$25 BANK FEE WILL BE APPLIED TO ANY RETURNED CHECKS.

THE BAND UNIFORM

Every band student will receive a uniform. For wind and percussionists, this includes a garment bag, jacket, pants, gauntlets, shoes with shoe bag, gloves and hat. For color guard, this includes two uniforms: the standard Marching Band uniform (black jazz pants with the red/black/silver marching band top, black guard shoes) and the show uniform. The only items the students will need to provide on their own are black socks, shorts and a squad t-shirt (\$15 – sold at the beginning of the season).

Please remember, the squad t-shirt is part of the uniform and MUST be worn underneath the jacket every time.

Uniform Checklist:

1. Garment bag with provided black plastic hanger (no wire hangers!)
2. Squad t-shirt and shorts to be worn underneath
3. Uniform coat and pants (provided)
4. Gauntlets (provided)
5. Black socks (tall, tube or soccer-type socks – NO ANKLE SOCKS)
6. Black marching shoes (provided)
7. Black gloves (first pair provided, any additional pairs are \$2)

UNIFORM/EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

Before each performance, uniforms will be inspected. Consecutive failed inspections may result in not being able to perform with the band until the uniform successfully passes inspection. Additionally, the uniform is to worn in full or not at all. **AT NO TIME SHOULD STUDENTS WEAR ONLY PART OF A UNIFORM. This includes having the back of the jacket unzipped or the straps of the bibs hanging down.**

The Pants:

1. The pants will fit high up on the chest. They should be adjusted so that the bottoms of the pants touch the tops of the shoes and are approximately one inch from the ground. They should not drag on the ground. The crease should be straight the entire way down (no bunching at the bottom).
2. The length can be adjusted with the built-in suspenders, but may need to be hemmed.
3. You should wear shorts, and/or long underwear (if necessary), under the uniform pants. No denim!

The Coat/Gauntlets:

1. Gauntlets are worn around the wrists and should be worn so that the ends of the sleeves cannot be seen.
2. You should have a collar liner snapped inside the coat neck (this is washable).

3. The neck collar is hooked shut.
4. You must always wear the SQUAD SHIRT under your coat.

The Hat:

1. **Long hair must be braided to fit neatly in the hat.** French braids work best. No pieces of hair should be sticking out of the hat. Headbands may work to help with this, but make sure the headband cannot be seen with the hat on, especially in the back.
2. The brim of the hat is level at the eyebrows and the top of the hat is straight across.
3. The chinstrap should rest under the chin.
4. The plume is straight.

The Gloves:

1. All sections wear gloves except the percussion section and color guard. Your first pair is free. After that, you must purchase your own gloves for \$2 a pair. *It is always a good idea to have an extra pair!*
2. Flutes and clarinets may choose to cut the fingers out on the palm side of the gloves for open keys that require coverage. **DO NOT CUT THE FINGER TOPS OFF OF THE GLOVES.** Let the squad leader or a staff member cut the gloves for you.
3. Gloves should always be clean for a performance.

The Shoes:

1. Shoes will be provided. These are reused each year. If you wish to purchase a new pair for your child to keep you may do so for \$35.
2. Shoes must be cleaned before every performance.
3. Shoes should be carried and stored in the green shoe bags (hung **OUTSIDE** of the garment bag)
4. Students must provide themselves with plain black tube/soccer socks. *No ankle socks!*
5. It is a good idea to keep an extra pair of clean black socks in your garment bag.

ALSO...

-The only thing permitted in the garment bag is your uniform. **NO SHOES IN THE GARMENT BAG!** The green shoe bags must hang on the outside of the garment bag. When we travel, the shoe bags must remain with the students on the bus, as they will not fit underneath with the garment bags.

-Jewelry is not permitted for performances. This includes ear piercings and any other facial piercings.

-Colored nail polish is not permitted for performances.

UNIFORM CARE & MAINTENANCE

The uniform should always be hung up after every performance. It is good practice to turn the uniform inside out and let it air out before you put it in the garment bag. When uniforms get wet, hang them to dry as soon as possible. The collar liner should be removed and washed in mild detergent and line dried. Use the black plastic hanger provided for your uniform. **No wire hangers!**

The band will dry-clean the uniforms once at the end of each school year. If your uniform is in need of minor repair, bring that to the attention of the director. Do not attempt to repair the uniform yourself. **You may wash the black pants if necessary and let them line dry. DO NOT wash the uniform coat or gauntlets!**

Color guard uniform information will be covered by the guard staff.

BAND JACKET & PATCHES

Band jackets are an *optional* purchase and cost \$70. A majority of the band members own a band jacket. We often wear these as a group for “casual” performances, such as the Homecoming Parade, and also anytime that the weather threatens to damage our uniforms. The following are steps that explain where patches are to be sewn onto the jacket. Everyone’s jacket needs to look the same.

- | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Mini “J” Shield (8 th grade) | = | Under Name/Instrument |
| 2. Graduation year (9 th grade) | = | Left sleeve |
| 3. Indian head (10 th grade) | = | Front on “belly” of jacket |
| 4. Letter “J” (11 th grade) | = | Back (under “Jamestown”) |
| 5. Green “J” shield (12 th grade) | = | Left front (under name/instrument) |
| 6. Participation patches | = | Down Right sleeve (in order received) |

BAND NOTES

Every week, Mrs. Murray will send Band Notes home with the students. These are extremely important because they give information regarding what’s happening that week, including rehearsal times, report times for competitions, directions to competitions, due dates and other items or events coming up. *Please make sure to ask your child for these.* During the summer months, they will be handed out on Monday nights. During the school year, they will be handed out on Tuesday nights. Band Notes will also be posted on the website for you to download:

www.JHSMarchingBand.com

Please use this website! The website has musical resources (i.e. recordings for practicing), rehearsal and competition schedule, information for the parents, information about our show, history of the band, competition results and an Alumni Page. If you are an alumnus of the band or color guard please get online and join the Alumni Association!

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 1982, 1988 Festival of States, St. Petersburg, FL
- 1984, 1989, 1995 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, New York City
- 1986 Rose Bowl, Pasadena CA
- 1991 Class AAA New York State Field Band Conference Champions
- 1992 International Music Festival, Bahamas
- 2000 North American Music Festival, Myrtle Beach, SC
- 2002 Magic Music Days, Walt Disney World, Orlando, FL
- 2002 Large School 2 New York State Field Band Conference Champions
- 2004 FedEx Orange Bowl, Miami, FL
- 2007 Cirtus Parade, Orlando, FL
- 2010 St. Patrick's Day Parade, New York City
- 2012, 2014 Disney's Electric Light Parade, Orlando, FL
- 2014 Large School 2 New York State Field Band Conference Champions

All rules and regulations within this handbook are at the discretion of the band director.

**All forms are due on
MONDAY, JUNE 8TH, 2015**

JHS MARCHING BAND FEES SUMMARY SHEET

REQUIRED

ACTIVITY FEE \$175

CANDY BARS (SELLING)..... \$104 (52 BARS @ \$1 X 2 BOXES)
CANDY BARS (OPTING OUT)..... \$50 (\$25 PER BOX X 2 BOXES)
CANDY BARS (SELLING & OPTING) \$77 (52 BARS @ \$1 + \$25 OPTING OUT)

SQUAD SHIRT \$15

OPTIONAL

SHOES \$40

BACKPACK \$25
\$35 WITH PERSONALIZATION

BAND JACKET \$70

CHECK INFORMATION

*PLEASE WRITE SEPARATE CHECKS FOR EACH ITEM.

*INDICATE WHAT THE CHECK IS FOR IN THE "MEMO" SECTION.

*ALL CHECKS SHOULD BE WRITTEN TO "JHS BAND".

*A \$25 BANK FEE WILL BE APPLIED TO ANY RETURNED CHECKS.