

Skyridge Marching Band Handbook 2023

We are so excited for another great marching band season! Included here is information that can help you have a successful experience. If you ever have any questions please email any of the teachers we are happy to help!

What is marching band and why?

Students that do marching band gain life-long friendships and memories. They become more mentally and physically resilient. They gain a stronger sense of self-awareness and work ethic. They are a part of something bigger than themselves, which is one of the key human needs.

The product is enjoyed by thousands every year. Parents and individuals (unassociated with our group) have told me many times that our performance brought them to tears. This is a powerful performing medium.

Who can join the Skyridge Marching Band?

Students who will be in 9-12th grades and live in the Skyridge boundaries or have transferred to Skyridge High School. There is not an audition for wind instruments. Percussion will have an audition for instrument placement. Color Guard will have an audition in the spring. Winds and Percussion must be in a regular Band class to be in Marching Band.

How to Sign Up!

Although our first rehearsal is not until April we have already started writing music and getting our drill created and we need to have solid numbers as soon as possible. We need all students to commit and register by Feb. 15, 2023.

To sign up:

- Fill out the registration form by February 15, 2023. The registration link can be found at <https://www.skyridgeband.com/marching-band>
- Make your first payment on myschoolfees.com by February 15, 2023 (see instructions below)
- Bring your signed contract to your current band or color guard teacher by Feb. 15, 2023

Schedule

As a member of the Skyridge Marching Band you are committing to be a part of the team. You are needed there at every required rehearsal!

- The attached schedule is accurate, but subject to change. The competition schedule will be out in late summer. An updated schedule can always be found at [skyridgeband.com/marching-band](https://www.skyridgeband.com/marching-band).
- Band camp, all fall rehearsals and camps and all competitions are required. No exceptions. Once we start learning our show it is very difficult to have anyone missing.
- We believe in students taking time to be with their family in the summer and have color coded our summer schedule based on priority.
 - **Yellow** rehearsals: If you are in town you need to be at rehearsal but it can be excused if you are gone. Please do not schedule lessons, doctors appointments or any other conflicts during rehearsals.
 - **Orange**: Do everything you can to schedule vacations around these dates, but can be excused.
 - **Red**: MANDATORY DATES, do not sign up for marching band if you can not make it (*The only possible exception to RED dates is if you are marching Drum Corps this summer*)

- If you are out of town for yellow or orange rehearsals **please fill out the absence request form found at skyridgeband.com/marching-band**. Simply letting your section leader know is not enough you must fill out this form BEFORE your absence to get it excused.
- Competition performances start mid September and end with state finals Nov. 2-5, 2023.
- If you can not attend all required rehearsals including band camp, all fall rehearsals and all performances you should not sign up. Please come talk to us if you have any questions.
- Our state finals trip will be from Thursday Nov. 2 - Nov. 5, 2023. Yes we are leaving a day earlier this year. We will only miss 1 full day of school

Other Activities

Marching band is such a great team activity! All of you are on the field the entire time! You are part of a team and the team will struggle when you are not there. We need you to commit 100% to being there at every rehearsal. This makes participating in other fall activities very difficult. If you are considering participating in another activity please know that you will not be able to miss any marching band rehearsals especially band camp and all fall rehearsals. Come talk to us if you have specific questions.

Class Requirements

- Winds: You do NOT have to join the marching band to participate in regular band activities at the high school (concert bands, percussion and jazz bands)
- Winds: If you DO decide to join the marching band you are REQUIRED to be in a concert band at either the junior high or the high school. No exceptions!
- Percussion: Must be signed up for a regular concert band percussion class. If possible we ask that students sign up for the marching percussion class at Skyridge (9th graders would need to find a ride - talk to Mrs. Crandall if there are any problems). Please do everything you can to participate in this class.
- Color Guard: Should be signed up for the color guard class at Skyridge. 9th graders it is really beneficial to be in this class if you can make it work. Please do everything you can to participate in this class.

Fees

We work hard to keep our fees some of the lowest in the state for a band our size. The fees cover everything (except the parade uniform and shoes) for the season. This includes meals at competitions and band camp, transportation, competition fees, instruments, uniform, staff, drill writing, field paint, props, hotel, state finals trip fees etc. Our fees are higher this year due mostly to major increases in hotel, transportation, field paint and food prices. Color Guard and Percussion may have a few additional fees (Color guard: flag bag and gloves, Percussion: sticks and mallets).

Payments

All payments can be made using myschoolfees.com (through Skyridge, not the Jr high) or in the Skyridge finance office. Total cost is \$925 - may be paid all at once or with the payment structure below:

Feb. 15: \$75 March 5: \$250 April 5: \$200 May 5: \$200 June 5: \$200

Once registered, please begin paying. If you must drop out, we need to know in writing before April 30, 2023 to receive a full refund. If you inform us from May 1-May 31, you will receive a refund for the trip

and camp fees. After May 31 you are responsible for all of the fees even if you drop. If you have dropped but have not paid the fees your school account will be charged.

Payments can be made on myschoolfees.com however the instructions are different depending on where your student is CURRENTLY going to school

Payment instructions if your student is currently at Viewpoint or Lehi Jr (currently 8th or 9th grade):

Go to myschoolfees.com

Select "UT - Alpine - **Skyridge**"

Select "Show Public Items"

Select "Marching Band" from the drop down menu

Add the items your student needs to the cart (for the first payment select Feb. Camp \$75)

Please indicate your student's name at checkout

Continue to Checkout

If you have a problem: check that you selected Skyridge as the school. When you check out please only put your STUDENT's first and last name that you used on the registration.

Payment Instructions if your student is currently at Skyridge (currently 10th or 11th grade):

Go to myschoolfees.com

Select "UT - Alpine - Skyridge"

Select "Show Student Items"

Choose your child's name from the drop-down menu

Click on the drop down menu that says "Select from other categories"

Select "Marching Band"

Add the items your student needs to the cart (for the first payment select Feb. Camp \$75)

Continue to Checkout

Please do not use the "public" option if you are currently at Skyridge

Fundraising

The marching band has two fundraisers each year that help keep the fees low for the entire band. Our summer Palooza has become a great community event that includes breakfast, a car show, a 5K and other exciting events! We also host the Skyridge Review in the fall where you can come watch your students perform as well as several other schools! More information will be sent out but we appreciate all parent help for these big events!

To help lower individual fees we will be holding a mattress sale fundraiser this summer. Students will receive a portion of every mattress sale made in their name that will directly lower the individual student's fees. **We had several students that covered their entire fees through the mattress sale!** Many more covered a large portion of their fees! We will send out more information soon.

We encourage students to be creative and proactive to help earn their fees! Babysitting, lawn mowing, cleaning trash cans, yard sales etc. There are lots of great ways for students to earn money towards their fees!

We also really appreciate our community sponsors! We have a variety of donation levels that all go directly to the band and are tax deductible! Please let us know if your company would be interested in sponsoring our band!

Wind and Percussion Marching Band Uniforms

Marching band uniforms are provided as part of your fees. These will be worn for the Freedom Festival parade and for the competition season. Students need to provide their own long black socks and marching shoes which are used for the parades and competition season (DSI Viper, black - can be used all four years). Students are responsible to take care of their uniform and can be charged for any damage they caused. We will place a bulk shoe order in the spring which gives you a significant discount (we will send info out in May).

Wind and Percussion Parade Uniforms

We have a separate uniform for the Lehi parades. All wind and percussion students will need to provide their own black pants (with belt loops, no holes), black belt and long black socks. Students will need to purchase the Skyridge party band shirt, party band hat and have correct marching band shoes. Yes you can use these items all four years. The shoes are the same ones you will wear for competitions. Yes we have kept them the same since the school opened and you can use a sibling's or neighbor's used items however please make sure they are in good condition. We will have an order in the spring for anyone needing these items.

Color Guard Uniforms

For the parades color guard students will have a parade uniform. Students will need to provide black leggings. For the season your fees will cover your uniforms but you may need to purchase color guard shoes. More information about that will be sent closer to the season.

Communication

We communicate all information through email. We use the address you provide in the registration form. Some communication will come through Mr. Summers' email hsummers@alpinedistrict.org. A lot of information and details will come through the skyridgebandboosters@alpinedistrict.org email address. You are welcome to respond with questions to either email address. We also have an optional facebook group where we post reminders, pictures and other fun information (on facebook go to "groups" and search for skyridge band. Make sure you tell us your student's name so we know who you are).

Pass-offs

Throughout the season we will have "pass-offs" where each student is responsible to demonstrate that they understand the fundamentals of marching and that they know all of their parade and show music. Students will work with their section leaders. Any students who are not up to date on their pass-offs may be required to come in for extra help. Any student who is struggling should seek out help from the section leader as soon as possible!

Grades

Marching band is a UHSAA sponsored activity. One of the policies is that students must maintain their grades to be eligible to perform and to go on the state finals trip. Students must have a minimum 2.0 GPA and no more than 1 F to participate. Please make sure you are checking your grades and keeping up on your assignments throughout the term!

Competitions/Performances

All costs associated with the marching band for competitions and trips are covered in the fees including food and transportation. Students are expected to ride on the provided bus both to and from the performance. If a student needs to be checked out for any reason the parent or legal guardian must come talk to the TEACHER at the time of checkout. Parents can ONLY check out their own student and the parent must be present at the time of checkout.

Parent help

This organization can not happen without the support of our awesome parents! We know that everyone has different circumstances but we encourage all parents to find a way to be involved. There are a lot of different ways that will be emailed to you throughout the season including food donations, sewing help, prop support, uniforms, cooking food, chaperones and so much more. We encourage all parents to fill out this form (please fill out a separate one for mom and one for dad) to get us started - you are not committing with this form just helping us know who we can call! You can find the form using the QR code and on skyridgeband.com/marching-band. Thank you!



Disneyland

The marching band will not be taking a trip to Disneyland this season. We have a three year rotation for Disneyland trips. In the 2022-2023 school year the marching band marched in the parade at Disneyland this last season. The Skyridge concert band classes will have the opportunity to have a backstage experience next year in the spring 2024. None of the groups will go on a trip in the 2024-2025 year.

Come to Rehearsals Prepared

Students should be prepared at every rehearsal for both music rehearsal and an outdoor rehearsal. You should have the following items at EVERY rehearsal:

- Bag or backpack
- Water
- Instrument (bring in its case)
- Comfortable athletic clothing
- Athletic shoes
- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen
- Music binder (given at first rehearsal)
- Dot sheets (they will get these later in the season)
- Snacks
- Wear Deoderant

Common New Member Questions

"What will we be doing?" Students will rotate through different "stations" throughout the rehearsal, usually with your section. Stations include music rehearsals and marching basics so you will be prepared to march in both parades and in a show.

"Will the music be too hard?" The music may be hard at first but we promise you will get it! This is part of what makes marching band so awesome - you will have the entire summer playing with more advanced students who will help you and by the end of the summer you will sound great! We are here to help and you will be amazed at your growth!

"Should I be scared?" This was asked with a smile but...the answer is "NO!" Everyone was a freshman once and you will work together as a team to help everyone be awesome! We have handpicked an awesome staff who are all there to help you the entire time! Mrs. Smith says "it's normal to feel scared or nervous about something new but you'll learn to love it so fast!"

"Is marching band fun?" Yes! Is it a lot of work - also yes! You will be proud of what you learn to accomplish over the season. Taking trips to competitions and the state finals trip at the end of the season will give you memories you will cherish the rest of your life!

*If you ever have questions or need extra help please make sure you ask! There are section leaders and staff who are happy to help! We want everyone to be successful!

Questions

We are really looking forward to another amazing season! We are happy to help! Please email us with any questions you may have!

Howard Summers - Band director hsummers@alpinedistrict.org

Leslie Sampson - Band director lsampson@alpinedistrict.org

Jessica Crandall - Percussion director jessicalcrandall@alpinedistrict.org

Gracie Cook - Color Guard director garcie.cook1@gmail.com

Sarah Ahlstrom - Secretary skyridgebandboosters@alpinedistrict.org

Skyridge High School Marching Band 2023 Contract

Your commitment to this group must be the same type of commitment you would make to a job. We are now establishing habits that we will carry with us throughout life.

1. I understand that I must be at all Fall rehearsals, Band Camps and Cleaning Camps. I will prioritize these dates like a job. I will not schedule other activities during rehearsals. Work conflicts are not excusable.

Student Initial _____

Parent Initial _____

2. I understand that any unexcused absence the week of a performance will make me ineligible to perform that week. I understand that I am still required to attend the rehearsals and performance. All performances are required.

Student Initial _____

Parent Initial _____

3. I agree to bring a full water bottle, music and coordinate sheets to every rehearsal. I will be there 15 min before it starts.

Student Initial _____

Parent Initial _____

4. I understand and will follow the payment schedule.

Student Initial _____

Parent Initial _____

5. I will keep my grades up so I can participate! (min 2.0 GPA, max 1 F)

Student Initial _____

Parent Initial _____

Marching Band is very fun, but it is also hard. Things will get tough at some point, but you're committing to push through the moments you are feeling unmotivated. Experiencing difficulty and pushing through will change you for the rest of your life. This is one of the biggest benefits to being in Marching Band.

Student Name (print) _____

Date _____

Student Signature _____

Date _____

Parent witness _____

Date _____