



Marching Crusaders Attendance Policy (2024 edit)

ATTENDANCE CONTRACT

Student attendance is critical for the marching band to be successful. Because we do not have alternates, and we have a limited amount of time to work within rehearsals, we need everyone's support of the attendance policy/contract for 2024. Missing rehearsals can put a student at risk of not only falling behind, but any changes, additions to the show, or anything else we work on during that rehearsal can become an issue of safety for the students and those around them.

As a member, I understand that attendance at all summer practices on the official calendar, including wind/guard/percussion sectionals, and all August Pre-Camp/Camp/Post-Camp are required attendance. I also understand that ALL regular season practices on the calendar are required, as are ALL the performances, including home football games, competitions, and ALL parades for the marching band program.

HOW TO REPORT AN ABSENCE

1. **Pre-Arranged Rehearsal Absences** (including late arrival and early departure) – Absences, tardies, or early departures from any season rehearsal must be excused by Mr. Griffith with **2 weeks' notice via the Band Event/Performance Absence Report Form**. This form must be submitted by a parent and **MUST** state the reason for the absence, so if there is a concern with the absence it can be addressed in advance. We ask for this advance notice for all events for planning purposes. We fully understand family vacations, trips, and events during the summer, but we provide a calendar this early for you to plan around your commitment to marching band in advance so that we may be successful. The Band Event/Performance Absence Report form can be found at www.lcnbands.com/marching. Please know that notification does not make it an excused absence.
2. **Illness/Injury/Tardiness**- If a student is sick or injured, or is going to be late to rehearsal, you must email ahead of practice and notify Mr. Griffith. If a student becomes sick at school and will not be coming to practice that day, they must notify Mr. Griffith ahead of the practice either in person or through Schoology. Consecutive absences from practice due to illness or injury (2 or more) will need a doctor's note to be excused. Injuries that do not require a student to remain home should not prohibit a student from attending practice to observe/perform standing/seated.
3. **Performance Absences** – Absences from any performance, including football games, parades, and competitions, need to be submitted to Mr. Griffith prior to the first practice in July using the Performance Absence form located on the Marching Band page of the website (www.lcnbands.com/marching).

EXCUSED vs UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

Once an absence is reported in advance (per above expectations), it will be determined by Mr. Griffith if the reason for the absence is excused or unexcused. If any absence reported according to the guidelines is determined to be unexcused, Mr. Griffith will notify you when you report the absence.

ABSENCE CONSEQUENCES

If a student is absent and it is not shared with Mr. Griffith according to the above, it will be counted as an unexcused absence.

To be clear:

1. Any unexcused absence may result in a student sitting out the next performance.
2. Multiple unexcused tardies (2 or more) to practices may result in a student sitting out the next performance.
3. Multiple absences may result in the student sitting out the next performance if the director determines that the safety/adequate preparation is a concern for the student/members of the band.
4. If a student accrues 3 unexcused absences, they are subject to being removed from the marching band.
5. Students attending practice, but then sitting out (due to injury/illness) may also result in the student sitting out the next performance if the director determines the safety/adequate preparation is a concern for the student/members of the band.

Please note, it is our expectation that you commit to the marching band and its schedule in full, and that you accept the responsibility of attending all events. Developing strong musical skills and life skills through the band requires full commitment to be here for all activities or to follow the proper channels to notify Mr. Griffith of an absence/tardy.

By signing the Student Registration and Commitment form at Registration/Orientation night, you have agreed to the Marching Crusaders Attendance Policy.