

# Penncrest High School Band

134 Barren Road Media, PA 19063 610-627-6325  
[CSnyder@rtmsd.org](mailto:CSnyder@rtmsd.org) [www.penncrestband.org](http://www.penncrestband.org)

August 1, 2023

Dear Band Members and Parents,

Welcome, and welcome back, to the 2023 marching season! On behalf of the band staff, we are excited to work with you as we present the Pride, Precision and Power of the Roaring Lions. We look forward to getting off to a great start on August 21 at band camp, so please read the following information carefully. Get ready to have a great season.

## **Band Camp Essential Information:**

**Mandatory Activity:** All marching activities are mandatory for all band members unless otherwise specified. Plan to attend band camp in its entirety. See further guidelines on page two.

**Location:** Band Camp will be held at Penncrest. Daily specifics will be on the band room board.

**Paperwork:** Bring your completed medical form to your uniform fitting (see enclosed camp schedule for uniform fitting information) or send electronically to [csnyder@rtmsd.org](mailto:csnyder@rtmsd.org). Returning members do not need a new form unless your medical situation has changed. Forms can be downloaded at [www.penncrestband.org](http://www.penncrestband.org). We must have your completed medical form in order for you to participate in band camp.

**Pre-Band Camp Preparation:** Start getting up early and being physically active outdoors if you are not already. Have your school songs memorized and be able to play the show music. If you are driving to camp, please do not park in the numbered spots that are reserved for Penncrest staff. Begin hydrating 48 hours before camp.

**Early = On Time:** Arrive for camp days at least 15 minutes before practice begins. This gives you time to swing by the band room and make it to the attendance block before the whistle blows. Put on your sunscreen before you leave the house so it has time to work into your skin.

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

**Lunch:** All students are responsible for bringing their own non-refrigerated lunch. Healthy choices that will refuel you are: energy and granola bars, fruit, nuts, sandwiches with lean meat or peanut butter, and pretzels in addition to your drink. See our Healthy Snacking guidelines in Schoology.

**What to Wear:** Comfortable, light athletic clothing and comfortable athletic shoes. RTM dress code is in effect during camps; please follow all guidelines. Wear sunglasses and a hat or visor to protect you from the sun. Above all else, wear SUNSCREEN and apply it before you leave the house. Check forecasts as sometimes temperatures are cool in the morning, and we will march in the rain.

**What to Bring:** Your instrument and equipment, lyre and flip folder containing all your music. Your phone or device with the UDB App installed. Two dot markers that are unique to you (your section leader will give you suggestions). A gallon water jug filled with ice and water or a sports drink. Everyone must have water. Medical supplies such as inhalers, epi-pens, and allergy meds. You may keep these in your pocket or in a "fanny pack." Sunscreen so you can reapply. You will get a name tag on day one – wear it until you are told not to.

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**If You Are Playing a Fall Sport:** Let your coach know you're in band and let me know the sport you play no later than August 7<sup>th</sup>. Athletes will split their time between sports and band each day, except for Monday 8/21 when rookies will be required to be in band the entire day. Expect to split your time during the evening practices. 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. The key is flexibility and communication.

**Bring your best attitude!** This IS NOT boot camp. This IS going to be the most fun you have ever had working hard. Take it one step at a time, follow instructions, and help each other. You can do this, and we will help you.

## CONFLICTS WITH BAND AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

**All band activities are mandatory for every band member.** Every band member occupies a unique spot in the show. There is no JV, there is no bench, every one of you is a starter on the Varsity squad. No one can do what you do, and without you, the band is incomplete and won't perform its best. To that end, band members are to arrange their personal schedules so as not to conflict with the schedule. Things like senior portraits, medical appointments, jobs, and vacations should be scheduled so as not to interfere. Activities and occasions that we excuse for include: weddings, funerals, emergencies, college visits, religious observances, SAT and similar standardized testing, and conflicting Penncrest activity as outlined in the Co-Curricular Agreement.

For an absence to be excused, the band office needs written notification at least one week in advance, describing the specific nature of the request. If our request falls under the above list, it will be excused. If you are missing a graded activity, you will still need to make up the grade by taking an additional playing test. Unexcused absences from activities will result in no credit towards a band member's grade. Repeated absences 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 to perform until they learn their assignments sufficiently. 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.

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. Give as much advance notice as possible, 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.

If you have any questions, need some encouragement, or just want to tell us how great of a job we are doing, please contact the band office at [csnyder@rtmsd.org](mailto:csnyder@rtmsd.org). We are here to help! Band is a Preparation for Life, and we are looking forward to helping you be as prepared as possible! Let's have a great year.

Craig Snyder

Director of Bands, Penncrest High School

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## BAND CAMP SCHEDULE

(Full schedule is on the Google calendar at [www.penncrestband.org](http://www.penncrestband.org) )

PRE CAMP DATES			
Tuesday, August 8	3-6 PM	Section Leader Uniform Fitting	Band Room
Thursday, August 10	3-6:30 PM	Senior and Junior Uniform Fitting	Band Room
Tuesday, August 15	3-6:30 PM	Sophomores and freshmen fitting	Band Room
WEEK 1			
Monday, August 21 <b>**Rookie athletes are requested to spend the first day with no sports split</b>	8AM-4PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All band members will report at 8AM</li> <li>● Bring your phone with UDB app &amp; two dot markers</li> <li>● Anyone who was not fit for a uniform will receive one</li> </ul>	Practice Field
Tuesday, August 22	8AM-4PM	Regular camp schedule Sport Splits begin	Practice Field
Wednesday, August 23	7:30AM  4PM-8PM	Report to band room IN UNIFORM (No shako, gauntlets, or gloves). Hair can be worn down. Performance for RTM staff followed by pictures  FULL BAND REHEARSAL	Auditorium  Practice Field
Thursday, August 24	4PM-8PM	FULL BAND REHEARSAL	Practice Field
Friday, August 25	4pm-6pm 7pm	FULL BAND REHEARSAL Optional pep band @Sun Valley	Practice Field Sun Valley H
Saturday, August 26	4PM-8PM	Pool Party at Brock Family - optional activity but you are encouraged to come by and enjoy some non-marching, team bonding time.	Brock Residence
WEEK 2 – FULL BAND REHEARSALS THIS WEEK			
Monday, August 28	4PM-8PM	Evening Camp	
Tuesday, August 29	4PM-8PM	Evening Camp	
Wednesday, August 30	4PM-8PM 7:00PM 8:00PM	Evening Camp Parent Meeting <b>Parent Preview Performance. All are invited to see our first show!</b>	Practice Field Library Stadium
Thursday, August 31	4PM-6PM 6PM	Last day of band camp Home game vs. Chichester: Informal Uniform, Optional performance	Practice Field Stadium