

Patriots Marching Band: What? Who? You!!!

What is the Patriots Marching Band?

The Patriots Marching Band is a summer marching band that combines band members from St. Anthony Village High School and Spring Lake Park High School. We perform in 6 to 8 competitive parades during the month of June and rehearse approximately 15 times from February-June. We also take a trip to a major July 4th (or similar scale) parade each year.

Who can join?

All current 8th-12th grade Band students at St. Anthony Village or Spring Lake Park are eligible to be in Patriots. Choir & non-music students in grades 9-12 are eligible to be in the guard or band front. Note: While most Patriots members go on the annual July 4th trip, the trip, though always strongly encouraged, is not a requirement.

Who deals with all these kids?

Andy Erickson, Executive Director & Music/Woodwinds. St. Anthony Village band teacher.
Chris Ravndal, Asst. Exec. Director, Trip Coordinator, & Music/Brass. St. Anthony Village band teacher.
Dan Wenkel, Drumline Instructor. St. Anthony Village science teacher.
Claire Volna, Marching Instructor. U of MN Marching Band member/leadership; SAV grad
Tyler Shipe, Marching Instructor & Drill Design. Drum Corps veteran; Irondale grad & show writer
Michelle Koski, Guard Instructor. Drum Corps veteran; Irondale grad

What does it cost to be in Patriots?

Activity fee

Each school determines its own activity fee. SLP students pay \$200. SAV students' activity fee encompasses most of the per-pupil cost and depends on the total number of students participating. It's usually around \$200.

Trip

The annual trip cost varies yearly. A ballpark guess this year is \$600, though it's still too early to know.

Fundraising

Several student account fundraisers take place at each school over the course of the year. The directors at each school communicate with their students/parents regularly about their school's fundraising opportunities.

Commitment – Tradition - Excellence

Participating in the Patriots Marching Band is a significant but not overwhelming commitment. Many kids work nearly-full-time summer jobs and never miss Patriots. Many other Patriots participate in school sports or activities, as well as summer sports. The Patriots Marching Band is regarded by many as one of the finest groups of young people at both schools. The commitment, hard work, and passion of Patriots members over the years have established a tradition of high achievement and a first-class reputation for excellence. Patriots alumni look back with pride on their Patriots experience as being extremely worthwhile, memorable, and fun.

In summary, Patriots Marching Band ...

- is a high-level Arts-based performance experience which also teaches much about life beyond the Arts;
- teaches students to strive for excellence;
- represents the ultimate in "team" concept because everyone is always contributing: no one sits out;
- stresses individuals' character development: commitment & responsibility, discipline, unselfishness, pride, dignity of all members, motivation, leadership, & self-esteem;
- teaches students to represent both their individual schools and the Patriots organization with pride, dignity, and class.

PATRIOTS MARCHING BAND 2017 SCHEDULE (FEBRUARY 7TH VERSION)

All practices at St. Anthony Village HS unless otherwise marked

<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>NOTES</u>
February 12	Sunday	2:30 – 7:30	Kickoff practice <i>AT SAVHS</i> , Pizza party, & 2016 Trip Video
February 21	Tuesday	6:30 – 9:00	Full Practice
February 28	Tuesday	6:00 - 9:00	Full Practice (ROOKIES, 6:00; ALL, 7:00)

Guard Sectionals (6:00 – 9:00 p.m. in SAVHS Commons. All are Mondays except where noted):

Feb. 22 (W) @SAV Comm. Ctr. Mar. 1 (W), 8 (W), 20, 27 April 3, 17, 24 May 1, 10 (W), 15

March 25	Saturday	12:30 – 3:30	Full Practice (ROOKIES, 12:30; ALL, 1:30); *\$200 ACTIVITY FEE DUE
March 30	Thursday	6:00 - 9:00	Full Practice (ROOKIES, 6:00; ALL, 7:00); MOST FORMS DUE
April 4	Tuesday	6:30 – 9:00	Full Practice
April 10*	Monday	6:30 – 9:00	Full Practice; *\$200 TRIP PYMT. & PERM FORM DUE
May 2	Tuesday	6:30 - 9:00	Full reh.; <i>memorization 1.0</i>
May 8	Monday	6:30 - 9:00	Full practice; <i>memorization 2.0</i>
May 11	Thursday	6:30 - 9:00	Full practice
May 13	Saturday	9:30 – 2:00	Band Blitz fundraiser (in St. Anthony Village; SLP kids welcome)
May 16*	Tuesday	6:30 - 9:00	Full practice; *\$200 TRIP PYMT. & TWINS TICKET ORDERS DUE
May 20	Saturday	9:00 - 5:00	Full practice (includes lunch, uniforms, bus & room signups)
May 21	Sunday	1:00 – 5:00	Full practice (remaining uniform fittings)
June 5	Monday	6:00 – 9:00	Full-uniform dress rehearsal *at SLP
June 8	Thursday	4:45 – 8:30	+SLP PARADE (6:30 p.m.) (meet at SLP)

June 12*	Monday	noon - 8:00	+Spat Camp (incl. dinner); Parents: 6:30 trip meeting in auditorium & *FINAL TRIP PAYMENTS DUE!!!
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June 13	Tuesday	noon – 6:00	<i>Spat Camp</i>
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June 14	Wednesday	10am – 12:30am	Spat Camp at SAVHS & #BENSON PARADE (6:30 p.m.)
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June 15	Thursday	2:30 – 11:00	#MILACA PARADE (5:30 p.m.)
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June 17	Saturday	8:30 – 10:30	#FRIDLEY (10:00 a.m.) & BUFFALO (6:00 p.m.) PARADES
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June 20	Tuesday	3:00 – 10:00	Full practice & #N.E. MPLS. PARADE (6:00 p.m.)
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June 21	Wednesday	3:00 – 11:00	TWINS GAME (7:00 p.m.; play ~6:30 p.m.); bring \$\$ or food @game
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June 22	Thursday	6:00 – 9:00	Full practice
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June 24	Saturday	9:45 – 7:00	#SPRING GROVE PARADE (1:30 p.m.)
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June 26	Monday	4:00 – 10:30	+ROSEVILLE PARADE (6:15 p.m.)
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June 29	Thursday	6:00 – 9:00	Full practice; Trip meeting for students begins at 8:00 p.m.
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July 3-9	TRIP – includes ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL (July 4) & TRAVERSE CITY, MI (July 6 & 8) PARADES		
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August 4	Friday	5:30 – 8:30	+VILLAGEFEST (7:00 p.m.) & uniform turn-in ; location specifics TBA
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+ = eat before arriving # = bring meal / snack for bus ride (food stops may or may not happen)

Financial matters:

- Any student dropping after April 30th is still responsible for the full activity fee.
- Refund of at least partial trip monies may be possible if you notify a Director on or before May 1st. No trip refunds after May 1st.

PATRIOTS MARCHING BAND

ATTENDANCE POLICY & LETTERING CRITERIA (2017)

ATTENDANCE POLICY

- Attendance at practices and parades is mandatory.
- The Patriots Directors understand that certain conflicts are inevitable and expect students/parents, outside of other school-sponsored activities, to do everything possible to minimize them.
- All June absences must be approved by a Director and submitted in writing no later than May 15.
- Directors retain discretion to extend case-by-case variances to this policy due to medical limitations, family emergencies, or other extenuating circumstances.
- Trip participation is strongly encouraged but is not required except for certain leadership positions.

LETTERING CRITERIA

Overview

Earning a letter represents consistent and exceptional commitment to and participation and performance in a school activity. The criteria for lettering in Patriots are designed to signify such standards.

Earning a letter in Patriots Marching Band is achieved through perfect attendance at all practices and parades. Trip participation is *not* a requirement for lettering.

SAV students are eligible to letter every year of participation. SLP students must meet the criteria for 2 consecutive years for their first letter, then annually for each subsequent consecutive year.

Details

- Excused exceptions to perfect attendance will not affect a student's lettering status providing the student 1) has communicated the information in advance with a Patriots director, 2) has called and/or left a voice mail message as soon as possible if advance notice was not possible, and 3) has otherwise *shown a high level of responsibility in handling the circumstances of their absence* with the Patriots staff.
- The following are considered excused exceptions:
 - illness,
 - funerals or weddings,
 - church commitments (single-day types but not summer church camps or trips)
 - family emergencies,
 - conflicts with other school-sponsored events, and
 - college registration/orientation for graduating seniors.
- Work and family vacations/trips are considered unexcused absences.
- Failure to communicate your absence and the reason for it to a director constitutes an unexcused absence.
- Missing more than one parade for any reason will result in ineligibility for a letter. (NOTE: Students in this circumstance can petition their director for an exception. Directors retain final discretion.)

PATRIOTS POINTERS FOR PARENTS

AN ANNUAL TIP SHEET (2017 EDITION)

Start times for parades and practices?

Practices begin at the times noted on the schedule. Arrive 10-15 minutes early. Arrival times on parade days are typically 15 minutes prior to bus departure time.

What is my daughter's/son's responsibility for the uniform?

Each band member will receive a uniform for which she/he is responsible. The uniform comes in a garment bag and includes gloves, shoulder cords, and a hat. All uniforms have been dry cleaned and mended. Band parents have already gone through the uniforms to mend as many things as possible. However, some things may have been missed. Please go over the uniform carefully and fix anything you find. Also, check the hem of the pants to make sure there's a mild break in the front pressed crease (yes, they need to put the pants on). *Parade judging points can be lost on uniform problems.*

You may need to dry clean the uniform during the season. Gloves may also need washing throughout the season. Students should also keep 2-4 safety pins on the inside of their uniform top for emergency purposes.

What kind of socks, shoes, and marching t-shirts are needed?

1) Rubber-soled black leather shoes – shoes that can be polished – and black socks are part of the uniform for everyone but color guard (the colonial uniforms wear knee-high white athletic hose-type or “sanitary socks”). Black marching shoes can be ordered from Band Shoppe or other such companies. The ones most kids get are called Drillmasters (with their “patented rolled heel”). Band Shoppe's phone number is 800-457-3501 (fax: 800-874-3635) and their price is usually ~\$30/pair when 3 or more pairs are ordered (a \$5 savings/pair). There also may be a parent-coordinated group band block & band-front shoe order (DOESN'T pertain to drill flags or rifles). http://www.bandshoppe.com/catalog/productDetail.do?p=Drillmasters_Marching_Band_Shoes

2) NOTE: Color Guard (flag & rifle sections) will place their own shoe order together. Approximate cost is \$35 for their shoes. Wait for word from your student about this.

3) Under the uniform, *all* students MUST wear a *plain* white t-shirt – **no writing/printing** – OR the official navy Patriots moisture-wicking t-shirt in the Adidas apparel order and thin, soccer-type shorts so uniform coats and pants may be removed right away in cases of overheating without revealing undergarments.

Annual Patriots season t-shirts (band members)

Each student will have a Patriots 2017 season t-shirt ordered for him or her that's included in the trip down payment. Non-trip students will pay at the same time. Cost is typically \$10. Most sections tend to get section t-shirts with their own designs, too, order & payment for which are coordinated through section members.

Red Patriots polos, t-shirts, & other apparel (band members AND parents)

The Official Patriots *parent* shirt is a red Patriots polo although several parents prefer the t-shirts which are also available in the forthcoming Adidas order (watch your email!). There are some additional items available just for *students*. All information regarding the apparel order is coming via email in a few weeks.

What should marchers do to prepare for parades?

1) Eat well the day of the parade (including breakfast!) and drink lots of fluids -- water or Gatorade-type drinks, NOT soda or energy drinks – before practices & daily throughout parade season (June). Many heat and fatigue problems are preventable with good rest, good conditioning, and normal food & water consumption.

2) Bring instrument/equipment and complete uniform, on time if not early, to the meeting site.

Exactly where are the Patriots going and when is the trip?

The 2017 Marching Band Trip is set for July 3rd to 9th and will be to march in the July 4th parade in Arlington Heights, IL, and July 6th & 8th parades in the National Cherry Festival in Traverse City, MI. Stops will likely also include several obvious and fun sights and attractions around Chicago and Traverse City. At the June 12th parent trip meeting, you'll receive a detailed day-by-day trip itinerary which the directors will review and will typically include the address and emergency phone number for each night's stop.

What meals are provided?

The detailed daily itinerary will list which meals are provided. Typically, most breakfasts and a couple other meals, including the banquet, are included in the total trip cost. Fast food meals are most common, although some kids will seek a "sit-down" meal or a stop at a grocery store for a break from the fast food routine.

How much spending money do kids usually bring?

Generally, \$150 to \$200 is quite enough (depending on how much shopping you expect, or expect to allow, your student to do). Visa Bucks, debit card or similar types of cards are strongly encouraged, and some cash is also helpful. Students should bring their school picture ID and/or driver's license.

What about medications?

Usually one of the chaperones is a licensed medical professional. Included in this packet is a health form which **MUST** be completed and turned in ASAP, and no later than **March 30th** or else your student will not be allowed to march on the street after that date until the form is in. **Last tetanus shot date *must* be on the form.** All medication -- prescription and non-prescription -- that students will have with them on the trip should be listed on the form and must be brought in original containers.

What to pack?

Students are allowed one normal-sized suitcase and a carry-on bag to keep with them on the bus. One change of clothes per day generally will suffice. Be practical – some kids tend to want to pack like they'll be gone for a month! Jeans or shorts can often be worn more than once. Some students divide or share certain items to better utilize space (hair dryer, curling iron, bottle of shampoo, etc. – NOT deodorant or toothpaste, please!)

Names should be on everything.

Tie something or make distinctive markings to differentiate your black luggage from everyone else's.

Send along a few large zip-lock bags for wet swimsuits and/or dirty clothes.

Casual, school-appropriate clothes are appropriate.

They don't need a completely new outfit every day – jeans & shorts can be worn more than once.

One nice outfit for the banquet near the end of the trip.

A small, light blanket and small pillow for the bus.

A light jacket or hooded sweatshirt.

Toiletries plus moleskin, band-aids, safety pins.

Sunscreen (we can be in the sun for prolonged times) ... and aloe vera if you are prone to burning.

How can they call home?

Calls cannot be charged to kids' hotel rooms, but students can use their cell phone or a phone calling card.

UNIFORM ETIQUETTE

While you are in your Patriots uniform you are representing our program, our schools, and our communities, not just yourself. Therefore, there are few guidelines we must follow to insure the integrity of all we represent.

- **The uniform must be treated with respect at all times.** You represent all of the alumni that have worn a Patriots uniform before you and you also represent all that is “The Patriots” organization when you wear it.
- **Take care of your uniform properly:** Always hang it up correctly and neatly.
Make sure no parts are damaged or missing.
When carrying uniform or parts of uniform, carry them neatly.
When not in use, uniform is properly stored in the garment bag.
- **Wear your uniform properly:** Don’t push up the sleeves or roll up the pants.
Don’t wear the hat backwards, etc.
You should never look disheveled (that’s sloppy) in your uniform.
- **Never run in uniform** (unless a director tells you to do so). This is a dignity and pride thing.
- **Do not leave your uniform lying around.**
- **There is NO eating or drinking in uniform** (except for water, and then only when directed by a director).
- **Demeanor (how you act) in uniform:** Be polite, kind, respectful, and dignified at all times.
- **Sitting and the uniform:** Beware of your uniform vs. your surroundings!!! White jackets. Enough said.

AFTER A PARADE: You are to remain IN FULL UNIFORM until you are told by a director or commander to remove hats, gloves, jackets or whatever. There is nothing worse than to see a group in all various stages of dress when they are leaving the parade route. Directors and commanders will be very aware of weather issues (i.e., heat) and will make the appropriate decisions. It may be uncomfortable for a little bit, but have patience.

And lastly, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOU UNIFORM! (Are you noticing the recurring theme here?) Not your parents, not your friends, not your dog . . . YOU! Success starts with pride and responsibility!

Thank you,

Your Patriots Directors

Fine System for Uniform Infractions (i.e., consequences you don’t want to earn)

Replacement gloves			\$2
Replacement shoulder/honor braids			\$5
Uniform hung incorrectly on hanger or in a ball in the bottom of the bag			\$10
Replacement hats (band or colonials)			\$40
Other offenses as cited by Directors			(case-by-case basis & amount)
Replacing lost uniforms:	Guard = \$100	Band block = \$450	Colonial = \$800