

GENEVA HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

416 MCKINLEY AVENUE, GENEVA, IL 60134
NEAL SHIPTON AND RILEY CARTER, DIRECTORS

(630) 463-3800, EXT. 3980 OR 3975

TO: 8th Grade Band Students and Parents
FROM: Neal Shipton & Riley Carter, Directors
RE: GHS Marching Band 8th Grade Night
DATE: Aug. 23, 2024



Greetings, Future GHS Band Members!

The Geneva High School Marching Band is excited to have you join us for an evening of fun and excitement! **On Friday, September 6, we are hosting our annual 8th Grade Marching Band Night.** All 8th grade band members will perform with the GHS Marching Band and help cheer on the Vikings as they take on Lemont High School at Geneva High School's Burgess Field! See below for more information:

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

All 8th grade band members are expected to participate in this event and must complete the required online registration form by **Friday, August 30** (<https://shorturl.at/1Thox>). We need the information that you will supply on this form to adequately prepare for your participation. **All participants must also attend the mandatory rehearsal at Burgess Field on Wednesday, Sept. 4** (see below). There is NO cost to participate!

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Instrument:
 - All students must supply their own instrument, with the following exceptions...
 - If you play baritone, tuba, or a percussion instrument, you will need to contact a high school director to arrange to use a school-owned instrument.
 - If you play a “non-marching” instrument (e.g. oboe, bassoon, French horn, etc.), you must contact a high school director to arrange for a music stand to be able to perform on the field. If you play bassoon and have a neck strap, we highly recommend you bring it.
 - NOTE: a great option for you may be to join our Color Guard (flags) for the evening! A flag and instructions will be provided to you at the Wednesday evening rehearsal.
 - Oboe and bassoon players may be assigned to percussion instruments, at the discretion of the middle school directors, who will talk to you about this.
- Attire:
 - Any GHS spirit-wear or colors for a top (blue or white colors). Jeans or khakis for bottoms (no shorts). Comfortable close-toed sneakers.
 - Watch the weather! Be prepared to wear rain gear or extra layers or bring a hat, coat and/or gloves, if necessary.
- Music:
 - A copy of the music for *Smoke on the Water*, which is part of our “Colors” halftime show. Your middle school director will give this to you.
 - Additional music will be made available to you upon your arrival.
- A Lyre - this is a small metal clip that attaches to your instrument and will hold your music:
 - Your middle school directors will supply you with a lyre if you play one of the following instruments: **clarinet, any saxophone, trumpet, or trombone.**
 - If you play **flute, oboe, bassoon, French horn, or percussion**, you will be provided with a flip folio or music stand by the high school when you arrive on the days of the rehearsal and performance.
 - If you play **baritone and sousaphone**, please check with your middle school directors to see if they have a lyre that fits your instrument. If not, a lyre or music stand will be provided to you by the high school.

ITINERARY

Wednesday, September 4th – Rehearsal (required):

- 7:10pm..... **ONLY STUDENTS USING HIGH SCHOOL-OWNED INSTRUMENTS:** Meet at the GHS Band Room at this time to pick up your instrument (Door 23E off of McKinley Ave.). **You must arrange to have a parent drive you from the high school to Burgess field after you pick up your instrument.**
- 7:20pm..... **ALL 8th GRADE STUDENTS arrive at Burgess** (casual attire). Pick up your assigned flip folio from the table on the track. Remember, you **MUST** have an instrument lyre to hold your music folio in the bleachers. Except for flute, oboe, bassoon, French Horn, and percussion, extra lyres and/or music stands will not be available for students who do not have a lyre! Please see page 1 of this letter for more information about lyres.
- 7:30pm..... **Rehearsal begins.**
- 8:30pm..... **You are dismissed for the evening.** You must arrange for a parent to pick you up from Burgess Field at this time.
- **ALL STUDENTS:** You must leave your flip folio on the table on the track before you leave.
 - **STUDENTS USING HIGH SCHOOL-OWNED INSTRUMENTS:** Leave your instrument at the field where the director tells you. We will bring the instrument to the field for you on Friday night.

Friday, September 6th – Performance:

- 5:15pm **Arrive at GHS Band Room** (wearing school colors/spirit wear). Pick up your assigned flip folio from the table in the band room.
- **ALL STUDENTS:** The band room will be locked until after the game, **so please leave any personal belongings and instrument cases with your parents when they drop you off.**
- 5:30pm..... **Rehearsal on McKinley Practice Field.**
- 6:25pm..... Entire band is lined up two-by-two (in concert order) on McKinley Ave., facing north. **March down to Burgess Field.**
- 6:50pm (approx.) **GHS band members only perform opposing team's fight song** on visitor's side of track. 8th grade band members remain in bleachers.
- 7:00pm (approx.) **GHS band members only perform PRE-GAME SHOW.** 8th grade band members will watch performance from track. Afterwards, we will all assemble in the south end zone bleachers. We will then perform stands tunes during 1st half of game.
- 8-8:30pm (approx.) .. With ~5 minutes remaining in 2nd quarter, leave bleachers and go to home side of track. **Line up on track in preparation for HALFTIME SHOW.** The order of music will be communicated by the directors ahead of time.
- 8:30-9pm (approx.) .. Following halftime (3rd quarter), assemble back at bleachers for a **PIZZA SOCIAL!**
- **ALL STUDENTS:** You must leave your flip folio on the table behind the south end zone bleachers and check in with a director before you leave.
 - **STUDENTS USING HIGH SCHOOL-OWNED INSTRUMENTS:** You must leave your instrument behind the south end zone bleachers before you leave.
- 9-9:15pm (approx.) .. **A parent must pick you up from Burgess Field at this time**, in the south end zone.

OTHER INFORMATION:

You should have received a copy of *Smoke on the Water* from your director in the spring. Please see your middle school director or contact Mr. Shipton or Mr. Minard if you need an additional copy. Please start practicing this music as soon as you receive it! A recording of this piece can be found on the GHS Marching Band website (<http://www.geneva304.org/MarchingBand.aspx>).

Be sure to have any necessary medication on hand for both the rehearsal and performance.

To receive important announcements and reminders (including any changes in plans due to the chance of inclement weather), sign up for the 8th Grade Night Remind by texting 81010 to @ghs8qn24.

INCLEMENT WEATHER:

Please do not assume that either the rehearsal or performance will be cancelled for any reason, including inclement weather! Again, please be sure to sign up for the 8th Grade Night Remind (see above) to be notified of any changes due to inclement weather. We may move our rehearsal and/or performance (and pizza social) into the high school if the weather does not cooperate.

INFORMATION FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS:

Parents are welcome to come and watch the rehearsal on Wednesday evening and may sit in the bleachers. Parents/family/friends who are planning to watch this performance (encouraged!) must purchase tickets to the game. Plan to arrive at Burgess Field by 5:30-6pm to purchase a Reserved Seat Ticket. Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$2 for middle school students (w/ ID) and \$1 for elementary school students and senior citizens.

If you have any questions about this event, please contact a high school director. Otherwise, we are looking forward to having you in the band program at the high school next year and are excited for you to join us on Friday, September 6th for 8th Grade Night!

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