



**PISCATAWAY
HIGH SCHOOL
MARCHING BAND**

MEMBERSHIP GUIDE

2019-2020

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I. FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the Piscataway Superchief Marching Band. You are now a part of one of the most prestigious and respected programs at Piscataway High School as well as in the high school music community. Marching band is a spectacular combination of physical agility and coordination, with a visual and audio element that produces a form of entertainment and artistry that is unparalleled by any other activity. Besides the artistic creativity inherent in this program, we also strive to raise every student's level of excellence, commitment, maturity, and dedication. To the new members, we welcome you into the family, and to the returning members, we look forward to yet another challenging and awe-inspiring year.

II. PHILOSOPHY

The following guidelines are provided so that you understand what is expected of you as a member of the Superchief Band. Membership is more than a person being in a high school instrumental music program; being a Superchief is reserved for those who demonstrate the willingness and dedication to adhere to the principles of artistic growth and the relentless pursuit of excellence.

Our quest for excellence is successful only through the dedication and commitment of each and every band member. The reliability and sincerity of your personal commitment to the group will affect the quality of the program. The staff expects you to consistently put forth your maximum effort in every rehearsal. This is not always easy, but if you persevere your investment will be well rewarded.

By following the guidelines provided below for all ensembles, you can be assured of a very unique and wonderful experience. Countless graduates have commented that being a member of the Superchief Family has been one of the most profound experiences of their lives. We hope that you will feel the same way.

We look forward to having you aboard to share in the heat, cold, rain, sleet, snow, aggravation, exhaustion, frustration, sore muscles, satisfaction, elation, tears of joy, camaraderie, fun, and laughter that is the Superchief Band.

“Technique and ability alone do not get you to the top; it is the willpower that is the most important. This willpower you cannot buy with money or be given by others...it rises from your heart“

-Junko Tabei-1975 after becoming the first woman to climb Mt. Everest

III. HISTORY OF THE SUPERCHIEFS

Since its beginning in 1971, the Piscataway Superchief Band has become a nationally recognized, award-winning high school marching band. Dedicated to the principle of excellence in all areas of music education, the band has continuously pursued the total musical development of its members. Its success grows out of this commitment to excellence from the students, staff, and parents who comprise the Superchief Family.

Over the years the Superchiefs have been featured in several TV shows including “American Oompah” and “The Superchiefs Go To Ireland” for PBS; “Marlo And The Magic Movie Machine” for CBS; and “Today in New York” for NBC. The band has performed at numerous halftimes for the New York Giants, New York Jets, Washington Redskins, and Buffalo Bills, as well as for pre-game ceremonies for the New York Mets. In addition, the band has worked for the Walt Disney Company at the Radio City Music Hall premier of “Pete’s Dragon” and Mickey’s 50th Birthday Whistlestop tour at Penn Station, New York City.

In 1971 the band began with just 44 members, but grew quickly to 205 members by 1974. Throughout this time the members developed their proficiency in marching and music performance, won some local contests, and began many traditions, most of which are still intact today. By the late 1970’s, the band had an established reputation of quality and excellence that culminated in a national championship in 1979 in Daytona, Florida.

Touring Ireland in 1981 and 1985 and capturing first place in the Dublin and Limerick St. Patrick’s Day Parades on each trip, the band garnered international acclaim. Taking first place at the World of Music Festival in San Diego, California in 1983 and 1987, and at the Festivals of Music in Orlando, Florida in 1989, the band continued its success on a national level as well. The band also won consecutive New York City St. Patrick’s Day Parades early in the decade and continued to be locally successful, placing first in numerous shows around the state. They won the first-ever Tropicana Bowl Mid-Atlantic Championship at Rutgers Stadium in 1983 and the first-ever CMBC (USSBA) competition at Giants Stadium in 1988, featuring the finest bands from the tri-state area.

During the 1990’s the Superchiefs focused on the CMBC (USSBA) circuit that features some of the finest bands in the Eastern United States. The band has won five consecutive Group V Open Championships, from 1990 through 1994 and again in 1996. In addition, the band has placed in five Bands Of America Eastern Regional Finals Championships in 1996, 1997, 1998, 2002, and 2003 and won the Yamaha Cup Preview of Champions in 2001 & 2002. In 2002, the Superchiefs also took first place in the USSBA State Championships.

Another first in the history of the Superchiefs occurred when the band was invited to perform in the 2002 Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade, which aired on NBC on Thursday, November 28, 2002.

Since then, the band has continued its successes and quest for excellence which has been underscored by “excellent” ratings at the New Jersey State Band Festivals, 3rd place finish at the USSBA Championships in 2004, special recognition award by the New Jersey State Board of Education, and the title of “Best 100 Communities for Music Education in America 2005” by the American Music Conference. In the Spring of 2006, the band was invited to perform at Disney World’s Magic Kingdom, where we had the honor of performing as a precursor to the “SpectroMagic” Parade. Over the past few years, the band has received numerous first and second place trophies during the marching season. In the past few years we’ve received many 1st and 2nd place trophies, and have been a finalist at the first ever, DeMoulin Classic at Rutgers Stadium as well as placing 2nd at the USBands State Championships!!

We are proud of our heritage and tradition of sustained excellence, and they are very important to us. Let them be for you, as well.

IV. THE IMPORTANCE OF DISCIPLINE

Due to the nature of the organization, discipline must be strictly adhered to. Students and parents must be willing to accept the ideals, principles, and rules of the organization. Our students are constantly on display, and every member must be aware of the impact their behavior has. Any misconduct casts a direct reflection on the organization and school. Any student who casts discredit on the band by their conduct or actions shall be subject to dismissal.

Attendance

All band rehearsals and performances are mandatory.

You are expected to be at all rehearsals and performances. **PLEASE NOTE: this includes the Thanksgiving Day football game, and the Memorial Day Parade. If you do not attend any of these, it will negatively affect your participation level for the following year.** You may be excused from a rehearsal/performance, but only under one of the following circumstances:

- absent from school that day due to sickness, wedding, religious holiday
- death in the immediate family

In each of these cases, the “Absent Request Form”(see attached form) must be filled out and signed by the parent/guardian and submitted to the directors only, **at least 24 hours prior to the absence**. Any other excused absence will be granted only on a case-by-case basis and approved solely by the directors.

If you are unable to attend a **rehearsal**, you must notify the directors, **in writing**, at least 24 hours prior to that event. If you unable to attend a **performance**, you must notify the directors at least **1 week** prior to the event. Failure to provide notification (or if the director does not approve your absence) will result in the absence being UNEXCUSED. **The “Absent Request Form” must be filled out in order to be considered for approval! Do not “talk to the directors” about an absence. They cannot keep track of verbal requests!** Any member who attends a function that the band is performing at, and does not participate with the band, will be automatically expelled from the band program. (Ie. Sit in the stands at a football game when you are suppose to be performing with the band.

Rehearsals scheduled during school vacation

You are expected to attend all scheduled rehearsals, including those that occur during school vacations (e.g. summer, winter, spring, or arbitrary days off). Of course, family summer vacations are an exception. You should inform your instructors when you will be out of town on vacation.

Note that the following are **not** valid excuses:

- Work, babysitting, lack of a ride, club activities, SGA, Sports Stats

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(a) Repercussions for unexcused absences are outlined in the table below.

NUMBER OF UNEXCUSED ABSENCES	REPERCUSSION
One (1) unexcused absence	Student will attend, but be “sidelined” for the next football game. He/she will continue to attend ALL practices and band events.
Two (2) unexcused absences	Student will attend, but be “sidelined” for the next competition. He/she will continue to attend ALL practices and band events. <u>Tuesday night drills, Saturday full drills, and competitions ALL count as two (2) unexcused absences.</u>
Three (3) unexcused absences	Student will be suspended from all marching band activities. Student and parent will meet with the directors to determine what role the student will take, if any, in future participation.

(b) The directors always have the final call regarding this attendance policy.

(c) During the school year, a series of evening rehearsals are scheduled. These are very important since they are often extremely productive. No one is allowed to leave these rehearsals early for any reason. This will result in automatic expulsion from the band program. Any exceptions will be granted by the directors only.

Lateness

Being late to rehearsal negatively impacts your fellow band members who depend on you, and you deprive yourself of irreplaceable instruction time, and the opportunity for improvement. This will also jeopardize your ability to perform with the band at competitions and football games.

LATES	REPERCUSSION:
1 late	Warning
2 lates	Warning contact parent
3 lates	Loss of 3 rd quarter privileges
4 or mores lates	Loss of participate at football games and or competitions

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As a member of the organization, it is your responsibility to be **on time**. The definition of **on time** is *at least 15 to 30 minutes before the scheduled start of rehearsal*. This will enable you to get your instrument or equipment and get to the field (or wherever) in time for the actual start of rehearsal.

To be early is to be on time....

To be on time is to be late....

To be late is unacceptable...

Glossary

SIDELINED

- If you are “sidelined” for a performance, you are to arrive at the same time as everybody else, attend any and all pre-performance rehearsals, and attend the event in full uniform, however you WILL NOT perform at that event.
- If you are “sidelined” at a drill or rehearsal, it will be the result of your not following directions, cooperating with the staff, paying attention and doing what is expected of you, talking on the field, etc. If you are told by the directors to remove yourself from the practice, you are to stand on the side and wait until the directors address you and your behavior before being allowed to go back to rehearsal.

SUSPENSION

Suspension is a serious disciplinary consequence that jeopardizes continued participation with the band. A member may be suspended if he/she engages in serious misconduct so that the member is no longer in Good Standing. Examples of serious misconduct would include but are not limited to: unsafe behavior, use/abuse of drugs, alcohol and tobacco products, potentially or actually causing harm or injury to another member; lack of cooperation with directors and/or staff; bullying, taunting, or teasing other member(s). A band member who has been Suspended will be notified of the suspension by the Directors, who will contact the member’s parents/guardians immediately, and will also inform the HS supervisor. The Suspended member may not participate in band activities until the member demonstrates a willingness to correct his/her conduct. A second suspension within one academic year for any player could result in Dismissal.

DISMISSAL

Dismissal is the most serious disciplinary consequence of the band. It occurs when a student has demonstrated that he/she is unfit to participate in Superchief activities. A band member who has been dismissed will be notified of the by the Directors, who will contact the member’s parents/guardians immediately, and will also inform the HS supervisor. A student who is dismissed may not

participate in ANY Superchiefs activities for the remainder of the academic year,

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including Spring parades, community events, and touring. A member of the Superchiefs who has been dismissed may apply to the Directors for Reinstatement for the next academic year.

REINSTATEMENT

A former band member who has been Dismissed may apply to the Directors, in writing, and the student and his/her parents/guardians will be required to attend a Reinstatement Conference with the Directors. The Directors, will determine whether or not the student will be reinstated. The parents will be notified by the Directors of their decision.

Hazing and harassment

Our philosophy regarding the band program is one in which we promote a “family” atmosphere. All band members are considered equal in the Superchief family. Any acts of hazing, harassment, or bullying will be dealt with in the harshest of terms. (Up to and including expulsion and legal action)

Bus procedures when traveling

The following is a list of rules and regulations that all students must abide by when traveling on a bus:

- You must be in uniform BEFORE you get on the bus. This includes pants, shoes, socks and a shirt. You do not need to wear your jacket or hat on the bus.
- The only electronic devices allowed on the bus are those with earphones.
- You MUST remain seated while the bus is moving.
- There is to be no screaming, profanity, or exceedingly loud noise on the bus. THE CHAPERONES' WORD IS **LAW!!!**

Procedures at football games

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The following is a list of rules and regulations that all students must abide by when we are at a football game:

- You are to be in the stands, IN YOUR SECTION, and STANDING, during the first, second, and fourth quarters.
- You are to be in FULL UNIFORM from the beginning of the game to the end.
- You must leave your hat on at ALL times.
- Your hair must be up, inside your hat at ALL times.
- You are NOT allowed to wear jewelry while in uniform.
- You are NOT allowed to cover up jewelry with band-aids.
- During the third quarter you are allowed to get refreshments and stay within the designated area.
- NO ONE is allowed to leave the group without a chaperone. This includes bathroom, exchanging instruments, going to the band room, etc.
- NO STUDENT is allowed to leave a home game early unless PRIOR arrangements were made with one of the directors. We must have at least 24 hour notice in writing on the requested form. In this case, you will only be allowed to leave when you check in with one of the directors and your parent/guardian is standing there with you. NO STUDENT is allowed to be picked up from an away game unless going to another school activity, and prior arrangements have been made with the directors.
- No food or drink is allowed up in the stands.
- You must be back in the stands at the BEGINNING of the fourth quarter.
- There is no “noodling” on the instruments. Only “organized” playing will occur in the stands. ie. Drum cadences, approved stand music, show music as directed, etc.
- At home games, DO NOT leave anything of value in the band or choir room. The rooms do not always get locked up.
- There is no “socializing” with friends, boyfriends, girlfriends, etc., while in uniform.
- PDA’s (public displays of affection) are not acceptable during band activities

Consequences

Any infraction of the above rules will be followed up with proper disciplinary action.

V. LEADERSHIP

Chain of command

All successful organizations have structure. To assist in the running of our group, we have certain people designated as leaders. Drum majors, captains, section leaders have been given these titles because of their wealth of knowledge and commitment to this organization. Their duties are defined below. All questions, inquiries, etc. should go through the proper chain of command. While no question is unimportant, the directors are charged with running and organizing the entire organization. Minor problems and questions should be addressed through the appropriate people (DM’s, captains, section leaders, staff)

CHAIN OF COMMAND

Directors:	Dr. Sumner, Mr. Zampella
Staff:	All appointed caption heads & staff
Drum Majors (DM)	Sam Wilkinson, Santiago Blaumann
Section Leaders:	TBA

Drum Majors (DM) duties:

- Drum Majors are selected by the directors by way of audition
- conduct the band in rehearsals and competitions
- motivate the band through positive, inspirational, personal example
- maintain discipline in the band during rehearsals.
- take attendance at all band rehearsals.
- be able to read drill and assist with movement on the field.
- memorize conducting of the score

Section Leaders duties:

- Squad Leaders are selected by way of an application process.
- ensure that all members of their section have the required music, drill sheets, guard equipment, uniform items, etc.
- maintain discipline in their section during rehearsals and performances.
- assist younger members that might need extra help.
- read drill and assist with corrections on the field when necessary.
- inform directors/staff/captain of any problems that may arise.
- perform equipment duties assigned by the directors.

VI. UNIFORM

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The marching band uniform represents the quality of the organization. A poorly maintained uniform will have a negative impact on our performances. **YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TAKE YOUR UNIFORM HOME WITH YOU. UNIFORMS WILL BE STORED IN THE BAND ROOM.** They will also be cleaned “in bulk” by the school.

Uniform inspection will occur before each performance. If you are NOT in accordance with the guidelines, you will NOT be allowed to perform.

PERFORMANCE UNIFORM

In order to perform with the Superchiefs, you must be in **FULL** uniform. All students are issued a uniform. If the uniform is lost or damaged, you will be financially responsible to replace it. The full uniform is as follows:

BAND:

- Jacket and trousers (bibber) (Provided by school)
- Hat (Provided by school)
- Plume (Provided by school)
- Gauntlets (Provided by school)
- Gloves (purchased through the BPA)
- Polished black shoes (purchased through the BPA)
- T-shirt for under jacket (purchased through the BPA)
- Black socks (purchased on your own)
- Raincoat (provided by school)
- When it gets colder you may wear a WHITE UnderArmour Shirt and BLACK UnderArmour pants

COLOR GUARD:

FOR COMPETITION:

- Complete performance costume as per color guard instructors

FOR FOOTBALL GAMES:

- Jacket and trousers (bibber) (Provided)
- Polished black shoes (purchased through the BPA)
- Black socks (purchased on your own)
- T-shirt for under jacket (purchased through the BPA)
- Raincoat (provided by school)
- When it gets colder you may wear a WHITE UnderArmour Shirt and BLACK UnderArmour pants

No jewelry is to be worn while in uniform (You **MUST** take out all exposed jewelry.) **Band aids covering your earrings is NOT ACCEPTABLE!** If you have jewelry on, you **WILL NOT** be marching. Black “doo-rags” are acceptable as long as they are not exposed. (ie. They must be covered by the hat).

Current Marching Band Uniform Part Prices

Band & Drum Major

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Jacket	\$280.00
Pants	\$175.00
Baldric Sash	\$95.00
Gauntlets	\$60.00
Hat	\$75.00
Hat Box	\$5.00
Hanger	\$5.00
Plume	\$20.00
Garment Bag	\$15.00
Raincoat	\$75.00

Color Guard

Jacket	\$175.00
Pants	\$160.00
Baldric Sash	\$70.00
Raincoat	\$75.00
Garment Bag	\$15.00
Hanger	\$5.00

VII. RESPECT THE EQUIPMENT/ PEERS/ADULTS/STAFF

The condition of the equipment we use can directly impact the quality and perception of our performance. Dirty or damaged instruments and guard equipment can affect the visual impact as well as the sound.

Keep it clean

Clean your instrument regularly with a soft, dry cloth. Flush it out periodically, and keep the mouthpieces clean. Brass instruments and drums should be kept polished and oiled. Guard equipment and material should also be cleaned periodically.

If it's not yours, leave it alone

Do not touch someone else's instrument, equipment, or personal belongings. It is rude and unsanitary.

You took it out; you put it back

You are responsible for your equipment/instrument. If you took it out, you are responsible for putting it back in its proper locker. This includes the band and choir rooms.

Required equipment for instruments

Woodwinds:

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All clarinetists and saxophonists must purchase a “**Rovner**” ***Dark Ligature*** and **Legere reeds** (clarinet and sax). These are plastic reeds. They cost a little more, but one reed can last the whole season. These items can be purchased through *The Music Shop* (1-800-553-0633), *City Music Center* 908-245-7122, or *Woodwind Brasswind* (1-800-346-4448). Ligatures approx. \$20. You can also purchase the plastic reeds through the directors. Keep in mind that this is an investment towards your pursuit for excellence!

Instruments in cases

All instruments will be transported in their proper cases whenever we are traveling. This is to prevent damage in transit (which has been a frequent occurrence). If you discover that your equipment/instrument is damaged, you should report it **immediately** to a staff member. ALL cases must have a name tag on them somewhere, both personal AND school instruments.

Peers

Remember we are all working together for the good of the band. Treat your classmates with respect first and they will respect you. No foul language is allowed when you are in band.

Adults

Never talk back or be rude to any adult. Be polite and do as you are told immediately! If something doesn't seem fair, talk to the directors later.

Staff

Always listen to staff members. Talking back and being rude is unacceptable. Remember even though you think you are right, they have been doing this a lot longer than you. Give the staff the credit and respect they deserve, they know what they are talking about.

VIII. COLOR GUARD CORNER

Storage Room

Please note that that storage room IS NOT a color guard room, nor is it a changing room. This is a storage room for the entire instrumental music department. Please be mindful of that. Changing is NOT allowed in this room. Everybody must use the bathrooms across the hall to change.

The following are guidelines that are expected to be followed with the use of this room:

- Students are not allowed in the storage room without permission.
- It is every member's responsibility to ensure that equipment and uniforms are put away properly at the end of each rehearsal, football game or competition.

Care for Guard Equipment

Various color guard equipment including flags and weapons as well as coordinate sheets are issued to each student at the start of the season. Students are responsible for the maintenance of this equipment throughout the season. **You will be responsible for having your Coordinate Sheet with you at ALL REHEARSALS.**

- Practice flags should be washed every so often so that there are no dirt spots or tears while spinning. If your silk gets torn or frayed, tell a member of the guard staff immediately so that it can be replaced as quickly as possible. On occasion we will need to use these flags for football games so it is imperative that these flags stay clean and intact.
- Show equipment never leaves the school grounds. After every performance, please roll it up **neatly and place it inside of your assigned equipment bag.** Place your bag inside of a locker in the storage room.
- **You must carry your assigned equipment bag with YOUR equipment to every performance and rehearsal.**
- The flags, weapons, and props are very expensive and have been constructed by various members of the BPA. It takes lots of time and effort to make our equipment so do not leave it lying around on the black top or drag it behind you. If it snags and tears then you will not have any show equipment for the performance until a new one is made.
- **MOST IMPORTANTLY: ALWAYS ROLL YOUR FLAG UP** when walking away from your equipment. There will be times where the whole group or band will take a break and leave their equipment on the field. It is your responsibility to help create a safe environment by rolling your flag up so that no one trips over the silk.
- If for any reason an individual must leave the field to go to the bathroom or to sit out, they must place their equipment on the side line and away from the field where others may still be marching.
- If your silk and tape is sliding off of the pole, please tell a staff member and proceed to the guard box where there are supplies to fix your flag.
- **The GUARD BOX:** Each student will be assigned a week to carry the guard box. It will be your responsibility to bring it to and from each rehearsal, football game, and performance. Inside of this box are supplies and emergency items that are there for anyone's use. It includes band aids, tape, hair pins, safety pins, sanitary items, First Aid kits, markers, pens, CDs, nail polish remover, hair ties, cotton balls, ice packs, bug spray, aspirin etc. If you have the guard box and you see that it is running low on any of these items, please refill it and

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pass it on to the next member when it is there time. FORGETTING THE GUARD BOX AT HOME OR ANYWHERE ELSE IS UNACCEPTABLE!

Safety

Students should come prepared to all rehearsals with **WATER**. Ample breaks for water will be given throughout each rehearsal and it is the student's responsibility to have this available to themselves during rehearsals.

It is important to note that marching and spinning, by its nature, is a physical activity. There is a great demand placed on a student to be able to march and perform a complete show. It is the belief of the guard staff that there should be some proper conditioning on the part of the student, in order to facilitate a strong personal performance and to prevent injury. Calisthenics, stretching and running may be advocated and reinforced at rehearsals. Students are always encouraged to stretch and warm-up their bodies individually before rehearsing or performing.

As with any physical activity, injuries can and probably will affect a few students. Illness may also affect a student's ability to rehearse and perform. A doctor's note should always be obtained in the case of a physical injury. In the case of illness or injury, the proper attendance policies must be used to notify us of an absence.

If a student falls ill or suffers a minor injury during a regular rehearsal, the student will be permitted to sit out for one rehearsal, and to take notes of that rehearsal. If the student is too ill, he or she may be permitted to go home by the director. If the student is not well by the next rehearsal or performance, it is requested the student stays home to get healthy and that the proper attendance procedures be followed.

IX. OTHER PARTICULARS:

Rehearsal gear

Rehearsals are held regardless of weather conditions. Sneakers must be worn at all rehearsals. Sandals are not acceptable and socks must be worn to prevent blistering. Common sense should dictate that you wear or bring the following required gear for rehearsals: water bottle, rain gear, sun block, hat, sunglasses, and clothing for hot or cold weather. Not being prepared for existing weather can result in illness, which in turn may result in missing rehearsals in order to recover. We cannot afford for you to get sick during the season, so come prepared for the weather.

Alternates (Band and Guard)

In order for every member of the band to participate, we use an "alternate" system. Some of the students will have an alternate assigned to them. Both students will learn the music/routines, and drill. One of the students will be assigned to perform at competitions, and the other will perform at football games. The decision as to who will be alternates, and which performances they will do, will be based on observations over the summer. Some of the items we will base our decisions on will be: How well you learn your music/routines, how well you learn to march, how your attendance is for rehearsals over the summer (excluding vacations). Alternates will be assigned at band camp.

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Superchief Festival

One of our biggest fund raisers, and one of the most exciting events we sponsor is the Superchief Festival. This festival is run solely by the BPA. Hundreds of hours are put into the success of this event. We of course perform at the end of the night. We urge every parent to get involved with this great event.

Website

The Superchiefs have a website where much of our information is given. Please check it out at www.superchiefs.org.

Parent Involvement

Besides the Superchief Festival, there are numerous opportunities for parents to get involved with one of the most efficient and well run parent organizations in the school system. Your role as a “band parent” can and should be two-fold. First and foremost as a support system for your child. Please help your child with such things as being on time, practicing their music and equipment work, making sure their uniform is clean and ready all the time, and most important be there for them mentally and physically. For new members this will be some of the most demanding work they have ever done. Please encourage and support them throughout the season. Also, **MAKE SURE YOU COME OUT AND SEE THEM PERFORM!!!!** There is no better feeling of support for a child than to have their parents there, witnessing all their hard work.

Fundraising

There are two types of fundraising that you will participate in. The first type is where all members have the opportunity to fund raise into a “student account.” This account allows students to pay for certain band activities through credits to their account. The second type is where funds are collected to replenish the BPA general fund which is used to provide financial support to keep the organization running. This includes decal day in the spring. Please note that this is one of only a few financial obligations as a member of this organization.

Illegal Substances

Any circumstance where a band member is found in possession of an illegal substance will be handled in accordance with the crime. The matter will be turned over to the school administration and the Piscataway Police Department.

Failure to Comply

Your participation in the band program is governed by your adherence to the principles outlined in this guide. Failure to abide by these stipulations will result in either some form of probation or complete dismissal from the program. The band directors make the determination of the type of probation and whether dismissal is an appropriate course of action.

We are excited and pleased that you have joined the Superchief Marching Band. We are confident that your years here will be an experience of a lifetime. Please understand that these rules are not made to be mean or inflexible. On the contrary it is the discipline

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stemming from these rules that keeps order and safety to such a large group, and promotes the level of excellence that this band is known for. With this in mind, please be sure to read the above information carefully in order to make this one of your most successful years ever.

X. IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION:

Directors:

Dr. Sumner – 732-981-0700 x2258 / csumner@pway.org

Mr. Zampella – 732-981-0700 x2383 / kzampella@pway.org

Links:

Piscataway Superchiefs - www.superchiefs.org

USBands - www.usbands.org

Piscataway High School - www.piscatawayschools.org

Music Shops:

The Music Shop - 1 (800) 553-0633 / www.themusicshop.com

City Music Center/NEMC – 908-245-6700 - www.citymusiccenter.com

Woodwind Brasswind – 1 (877) 904-8101 – www.wbw.com

Division Street Music Shop – 908-334-2923 – www.divisionstreet.com

XI. BAND CAMP 2018:

Welcome to the 2018-2019 edition of the Piscataway Superchief Band! We have an exciting year ahead of us. Our staff will include the following:

Directors: Chris Sumner, Ken Zampella

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Show & Drill design: Eric Robertshaw, George Mattis
Drum caption head: Matt Lewis
High Brass caption head: Jason Lakshmanan
Low Brass caption head: Marco Jaimes
Woodwind caption head: Alvin Scott
Color Guard staff: George Mattis, Imani Stewart & Samantha Miller
Drum staff: Matt Lewis, Christian Lopez
Marching and Sound Tech.: Ryan Brady
Wind Choreographer: Jacky Lee

This Fall's competition season will again include a USBands performance at Rutgers Stadium and Met Life Stadium, as well as other local events including our own show on Sept. 29!! We are looking forward to another exciting and successful marching band season

Forms and Payments

Each year we collect an instructor's fee to fund additional instruction through the summer. The fee for participation in these summer activities is \$110, to be collected by the Superchief Band Parent Association (BPA). Of this fee, \$75 goes to the summer instruction; and \$35 goes toward a daily continental breakfast and dinner at band camp. If you prefer, your child may bring his/her own meals to camp each day. Please contact Suhas Sheth the BPA Vice president, to make these accommodations. Please note that participation in these summer enrichment activities, and the payment of the \$75 fee, are not required for eligibility to participate in the Superchief Band, however, if your child is not able to participate in the summer instruction, his/her level of participation will certainly be diminished.

All students are required to complete and submit a number of different forms. You will find these forms on our website (www.superchiefs.org). These forms, along with the instructor's fee, must be filled out **completely** and brought to the high school during one of the registration dates below:

July 10, July 17, & July 24, 7:00-9:00pm

(please make checks payable to: "Superchief BPA")

(please note that you can pay with a credit card, however, there is a 3% additional fee that must be paid to use a credit card.)

No student will be allowed to participate in camp unless we have all **forms** and **money!** Also, any student with past due monies (i.e. previous years), must be paid before band camp. Any unpaid balance will result in diminished participation with the band.

We are glad that you will be joining us this year. Be prepared for long hours of hard work... but also be prepared for some of the most exciting and unforgettable experiences of your life.

Christopher Sumner
Ken Zampella
Directors

Superchief Band Membership Guide

BAND CAMP INFORMATION

Once again, band camp will be held at beautiful “Camp Piscataway” in beautiful Piscataway, New Jersey. This beautiful letter is meant as a guide in your preparation for camp, the summer, and the rest of the school year. Please read it carefully. Parents are welcome to come to “Showtime” at 4:30pm on Fri., Aug 31st, where you can witness the start of our new season. Please DO NOT “drop in” any other time. We have a lot of work to do and need as few distractions as possible.

**PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT BAND CAMP IS
100% MANDATORY, 100% OF THE TIME. ABSOLUTELY NO EXCUSES
WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR MISSING ANY PART OF BAND CAMP!!!!**

Parents, we ask that you PLEASE help us with this.
Your children must be present and on time every day of band camp.

In addition to band camp, we do rehearse throughout the summer. Please note the following dates and times, and be sure that you attend the events which pertain to you. Concerning attendance during the summer, if the student is not on vacation, rehearsals are mandatory and attendance will be taken. Vacations are an excused absence and we do not expect you to come home from vacation for a rehearsal.

Color Guard – Besides the Tuesday 7:00-9:00pm rehearsals, there may be additional Color Guard sessions during the summer.

Music Rehearsals – Music rehearsals will begin on Tuesday July 10th, 7:00-9:00pm.
You are expected to practice your music during the week, in between rehearsals.

Drills – Marching rehearsals will be on alternating Tuesdays from the music rehearsals, 7:00-9:00pm. Be sure to have appropriate attire. Sneakers, (no flip-flops) hats, sunglasses, water bottles, instruments, and sun block are required.

Pre Band Camp Drill – Saturday, August 25th from 9:00am-2:00pm This is a **MANDATORY** drill. We will be charting the show.

The 2018 Band Camp will run from
Monday, August 27th through Friday, Aug. 31st
Monday through Thursday from 8am-8pm; Friday from 8am-5:30pm

(PLEASE SEE ENCLOSED CALENDARS FOR ALL DATES)

Superchief Band Membership Guide

Recommended Packing List for camp Piscataway

- < > Breakfast/snack for the morning.
 - < > Bag lunch. We will provide coolers.
(NO ONE will be allowed to leave the property during the day.)
 - < > 1 or 2 extra pair of socks
 - < > Extra set of clothes
 - < > Rain gear
 - < > **Sun block** (15 or higher)
 - < > Sweatshirts and pants for the evenings
 - < > Athletic shoes (at least 2 pairs with good arch support are a must!)
No bare feet, open toed-shoes or sandals will be permitted for marching!!
 - < > Hat (light-colored) and sunglasses
 - < > Pencils
 - < > Instruments – Extra reeds, valve oil, etc.
-

**IT IS EACH STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO ATTEND THE
ASSIGNED REHEARSALS. READ THE SCHEDULE CAREFULLY
ATTENDANCE WILL BE TAKEN AT ALL REHEARSALS..**

**REMEMBER TO PRINT, FILL OUT AND RETURN
ALL THE APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTS WHICH
CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE**

WWW.SUPERCHIEFS.ORG

**THANKSGIVING AND MEMORIAL DAY ARE BOTH MANDATORY
PERFORMANCES FOR EVERYBODY IN THE BAND. FAILURE TO ATTEND
WILL EFFECT YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE BAND.**



XII. BAND PARENT ASSOCIATION:

The aims of the BPA are:

- A. To provide all possible assistance to the Piscataway High School Superchief Marching Band, herein referred to as the Band, its student members, faculty staff, and clinicians.
- B. To provide such financial support as would be approved by the BPA membership.
- C. To maintain good public relations.
- D. To promote continuing interest in the various stages of instrumental music in the Piscataway school system

Membership

The Band Parent Association welcomes all parents/guardians of the band program. There is a \$5 membership in order to be an active member of the BPA.

Meetings

Regular meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month at 7pm in the band room (G100), starting in September.

Officers

The Band Parent Association is headed by the President, Anne Malone, and a number of other officers.

Communication

The BPA and band's primary form of communication is through email. It is imperative that we get email addresses for the parents/guardians of all band members.

BPA Committees

Many committees are established to carry out the numerous functions of the BPA. The family of every current band student is needed and expected to serve on at least one committee. Parental involvement is essential to a successful season. Information on regarding signups for these committees will come through emails as well as at the BPA meetings.

Some of the committees include:

- Banquet
- Scholarship
- Fundraising
- Pit crew
- Uniform distribution
- Nomination (officers)
- Color Guard coordinator
- Superchief Marching Band Festival

XIII. ABSENCE REQUEST FORM

NAME (PRINT): _____ DATE: _____

INSTRUMENT:

DATE OF REQUESTED ABSENCE:
(DAY – MONTH – DATE)

REASON FOR ABSENCE – BE SPECIFIC OR IT WILL NOT BE APPROVED!!!

PARENTS SIGNATURE:

IF YOUR REQUEST IS DENIED YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED PRIOR TO THE DATE.

ALL REQUESTS MUST BE SUBMITTED AT LEAST 24 HOURS (1 DAY) OR 1 WEEK FOR A PERFORMANCE, PRIOR TO THE DATE YOU ARE REQUESTING, IN ORDER FOR IT TO BE CONSIDERED.

PLEASE HAND THIS FORM PERSONALLY TO THE DIRECTORS:

(TO BE FILLED OUT BY THE DIRECTORS)

DATE RECEIVED:

APPROVED: _____ NOT APPROVED: _____

(sign & date)

(sign & date)