

NHS BANDS

HOME OF THE AWARD WINNING PURPLE REGIMENT

Who's Who?

The NHS Band program is under the direction of **Mr. Mark Yost** (Director of Bands) and **Mr. Ryan Tinker** (Associate Director of Bands). Percussion students receive specialized instruction from **Mr. Kyle Merck** (Director of Percussion Studies).

Opportunities

Numerous performance opportunities for our student musicians to develop their skills include concert band, marching band, jazz band, percussion ensembles, color guard, and winterguard.

Contact Us

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Come join our band family!

The **Northwestern High School Purple Regiment** has a long tradition of excellence and success! Students in our program continue to perform on a musical instrument in a variety of different ensembles and develop valuable life-long essentials like *teamwork, self-motivation, self-discipline, individual responsibility, and social skills* that prove to be effective in any career, sport, or other activity.

Read This Guide!

Hopefully many of the questions you have about signing up, schedules, and requirements for participation will be answered by reading this guide. If not, please feel free to contact us at anytime – We would love to speak with you!





HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Our band fee is very inexpensive compared to most programs in neighboring school districts with programs comparable to ours. Our band fee is **\$500** and this includes almost everything! Many marching bands, cheerleading squads, and other camps charge from \$800-\$1200 to participate. Dance, gymnastics, and karate can cost even more when you add in lessons, costumes, etc.

After an initial **deposit due May 26th**, the rest of the fees are spread out over the course of several months to help out our band families. As with all band programs, fundraising opportunities are held throughout the year to make sure that all students have the opportunity to participate in all band activities.

The band travels regularly and takes a *major* performance trip every several years. In 2018, the NHS Purple Regiment will travel to **Hawaii** and perform at Pearl Harbor. This will be the fourth appearance of the band in Hawaii.

The NHS Bands have never denied any student participation in band because of financial hardship. If you encounter financial difficulty in paying these fees, please contact a band director.

WHAT IS THIS ALL ABOUT?

Soon, your child will have counselors from NHS, RHHS, and SPHS on campus to learn about class options available to all high school students. It is important to keep in mind during these presentations that it is very possible to take band and other elective choices when you get to high school. The Northwestern High School Band prides itself in having students involved in multiple activities on campus. Continuing with your band career is a snap!

HOW MUCH TIME WILL THIS TAKE?

The Northwestern High School Purple Regiment performs regularly throughout the fall semester at football games and competitive marching events. Our competitions are held on Saturdays from the end of September through the end of October. We do not compete every Saturday!

Beyond that, just like middle school, there are other opportunities for students to participate including all-region, solo and ensemble, and other small ensembles. Just like in middle school, students will be required to engage in regular home practice routines like having homework from a “regular” class.

Additional optional activities can include winter guard, jazz band, small ensembles, and percussion ensembles. We have ways for everyone to get involved and experience the best that the high school band has to offer!



Students Can Participate In:

Marching Band
Concert Band
Jazz Band
Color Guard
Percussion Ensemble
Winterguard

WILL BEING IN BAND AFFECT MY CHILD'S GRADE?

YES - research shows that participation in band will affect your child's grades...**for the better!**

Did you know?

...66% of music majors who applied to medical school were admitted, the highest percentage of any group. In comparison, only 44 percent of biochemistry majors were admitted.

On average, students who participate in school music organizations score **89 points higher on standardized tests like the SAT** than students without musical coursework.

Also, 70% of the nation's major universities report that participation in a musical organization is a higher consideration than standardized test scores for admission decisions.

In addition, many real world business concepts are explored and taught in band. Leadership, team building, inter-personal relationships, and management skills are regular part of the

band environment. Regular training in these subjects are taught throughout the year.

HERE'S HOW IT ALL WORKS...

Soon, band representatives will be coming to your school to answer any questions that you might have about life in the high school band. Be thinking of questions you might have and do not be afraid to ask... they were in your position just a couple of years ago.

Parents, you will need to sign up your child for Marching Band & Instrumental Ensemble (9th Grade Band) on the schedule sheet and return it on time to your child's middle school counselor representative. If you have any questions, talk to your middle school director or give us a call. Any one of our band staff members can answer questions you might have.

We **STRONGLY** advise students to take both classes their first year to get the "high school band experience". *Students who only sign-up for 2nd semester usually end up dropping band before 2nd semester even begins.*

After that, you will receive information about a New Membership Meeting later in the Spring from your directors. At this meeting, the directors and student officers will be there to answer any further questions you may have.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Will band fit into an aggressive academic schedule?

YES! The NHS Band has had numerous full IB and AP students who have graduated in the Top 10 of their classes. In recent years, many of the top ten students including our salutatorian were four-year band members!

Can I play sports and be in band?

YES! Quite a few band members participate in athletics. **TALK TO US!** Let us know what you would like to do and we can help make it happen – regardless of what anyone else tries to say differently!

Do I have to audition for the high school band?

NO... just sign up! You will be admitted based on the director's approval and before the season begins, we'll help you determine which part works best for you.

Is it difficult to march?

All of your band directors marched once upon a time. If they can do it... ANYONE can. Don't worry, we'll teach you everything you need to know step-by-step beginning at band camp.

How much time does band REALLY take?

Our only regular evening rehearsals (outside of school) are on Tuesdays from 6-9PM. 4th block rehearsals are extended until 4:15 on Mondays and Wednesdays, and Thursdays until 5PM August - October. Obviously, there are football game performances on Friday nights and Saturday competitions. Like any other competitive group, the "season" is the busiest. Fall is our competitive "season".

As you can see, it is simple. We will give you plenty of opportunities to learn all that you need to know about the NHS Band. We start from scratch... we will teach you everything you need to know!

The Northwestern High School Purple Regiment

THE place you KNOW you belong!

The NHS PURPLE REGIMENT is THE largest student organization on campus with over 150 members and operates as one big, happy, diverse, musical family. It is unlike ANYTHING you have done before!

THINK ABOUT IT...

The first day of high school, you can walk through the halls knowing you have more than 150 friends to count on. You would be part of the largest organization at Northwestern High School.

Few other classes offer you the opportunity to travel to places like Orlando, Hawaii, New York, or England!

Get your Fine Arts credit for college admission by being in the band!

Our student officers, staff, and band boosters organize social events through the year – pool parties, socials, and dances!

No other class will bring you this much excitement, give you so much fun, make you so many friends, and make you LOVE IT so much!!!

KEEP IN MIND...

Just like a sports team, not everyone can play the same position. In addition, each and every member of the team is vital and plays an important position in our game. Our program seeks to include over 160 kids next year and we are excited about having YOU be a part of the experience.

The NHS Bands is an organization that is second to none academically and professionally. Marching Band begins our year during the last week of July. This is the most exciting and fun filled part of the year!

WHO WE ARE...

WE are **YOU!!!** We are 150 close friends of different sizes, shapes, colors, and backgrounds.

WE are academicians, athletes, future politicians, doctors, lawyers, teachers, and architects.

WE are college-bound and serious about being good at what we do.

WE are looking for a place to “fit in” and to have fun.

WE are determination, we are commitment, we are character, we are intensity, we are power, we are drive, we are grit, and we are art.

And most importantly as you enter the halls of the high school for the very first time...

We are the most impressive army of support you could ever count on to help you make it!

Regardless of the circumstances... **We've got your back!**

