

BELLEVUE EAST BANDS

Band Handbook

2026-27

Bellevue East High School

1401 High School Dr.

Bellevue, NE 68005

Band Office - (402) 293-4174

www.ChieftainBand.com

BAND App: <https://band.us/n/a4acb5v0k5q6i>

Directors:

Jeremy Krug - jeremy.krug@bpsne.net

Kaitlyn Keck - kaitlyn.keck@bpsne.net

Caption Heads:

Samantha Gleason, Color Guard - samantha.gleason@bpsne.net

Ben Skoff, Percussion - benjamin.skoff@bpsne.net

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Commitment Items:

The following items are required to be completed by May 21, 2026 to secure your student's position in the 2026 Chieftain Marching Band:

1. Complete the Information Form located at <https://forms.gle/TfcK6BHXoTFv1ygt9>
2. Parent and Student electronically sign the contract located at the link received via text message or email from CutTime.
3. Submit the BPS Permission to Treat/Hold Harmless Form (Requires Notarization, Notaries will be available at the Marching Band Kick Off on May 14th).
4. Make a deposit of \$150 towards the 2026 Chieftain Marching Band Fees.

Other Items:

- Join the Chieftain Marching Band group on the Band App <https://band.us/n/a4acb5v0k5q6i>
- Follow the Band Social Media Pages on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and more. <https://linktr.ee/BeastBand>

Attendance Policy

Attendance is one of the most important aspects of a successful band. When a student is not present, it can create difficulties for fellow band members. All students should be present in order to have a successful rehearsal and performance. All rehearsals and performances are mandatory and part of the student's grade once school begins. This includes morning rehearsals, evening rehearsals, performances, call times, and sectionals. Please do your best to schedule dentist, orthodontics, doctor, or other appointments outside of band rehearsal or band class. Expect accountability. Student leadership will reach out 5 minutes before a rehearsal begins to the student if they are not accounted for. Band staff will reach out 5 minutes after the start of a rehearsal.

Absence Form -

Excused Absences - In some cases, there may be times when conflicts arise that prevent you from being at rehearsal. Some of these may include a wedding, family emergency, medical emergency, sickness, etc. If for any reason you may have to miss something there are 3 things you should do: 1) Discuss the absence with Mr. Krug at least 2 weeks in advance, when applicable. 2) Have your guardian contact Mr. Krug via email (at least 2 weeks in advance where applicable). Complete the Absence form located in the Band App and on the band website, www.ChieftainBand.com. 3) Notify and remind 3 people of your absence: a) Your Section Leader, b) A Captain, c) Director/Caption Head.

Unexcused Absences Work-related absences and tardiness are not excused; please be organized with your workplace to prevent this from happening. Missing rehearsals or performances due to an abundance of homework or studying also not an excuse; use good time management, prioritization skills, and planning skills to get everything done on time. Unexcused absence time cannot be made up.

Tardies - Rehearsals and warm-up times start promptly at the designated time. You should be ready to begin rehearsing with all of your materials at the designated time. Arrive early enough to get your things ready. Call times are designed to give you ample time to prepare for performances. Less than 10 minutes late will count as

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1 tardy. 10-20 minutes late will count as 2 tardies. More than 20 minutes late will count as an unexcused absence. If you are late, please sign in with a drum major on the attendance sheet.

“Early is on time, on time is late and late is unacceptable.”

Multiple Activity Philosophy - We want students to participate in the activities they and their families believe they have time for. We believe that well rounded students make for the best people. Communication is how we navigate conflicts successfully.

Attendance Goal - having a goal based on an attendance percentage wouldn't support our philosophy due to our belief in student's participation in multiple activities. Our goal is designed to support the idea that communication is important to success in our philosophy. The goal is to have less than 1% of students at each rehearsal and performance in a No Call/No Show status.

Activity Conflict Hierarchy

1. Both Activities practicing - Split Time Evenly
2. One competing/performing and one practicing, go to the activity that is competing or performing.
3. Both activities are competing/performing - Communicate with the adult leaders of both activities and request their involvement in making a decision.

Summer Marching Band Attendance

If you are in town you are expected to be at all scheduled rehearsals. Please see the calendar at www.ChieftainBand.com (also located in our Band App group). **All of Summer Band Camp is mandatory for all students.**

Rehearsal/Band Camp Preparedness

Student Health and Safety is our top concern. For all rehearsals students need to bring water. A gallon water jug is sufficient. A 1/2 gallon is the bare minimum. For all rehearsals students need to wear comfortable athletic shoes and socks. Students need to be acclimated to long periods of standing, activity and warm temperatures. They will be given frequent breaks and no student will ever be denied water. We plan a minimum of one break per hour with the frequency increasing with temperatures and humidity. Hats, sunglasses, and sunscreen are highly encouraged. Musicians hearing protection is strongly encouraged. Some students may want to utilize insect deterrent during evening rehearsals. In hot and humid conditions students should wear light colored athletic clothing. In cold weather conditions students should be prepared with layers of clothing, hats, and gloves. Adequate rest and hydration are essential to success. Healthy diet can also enhance a student's ability to sustain their physical and mental endurance.

Typical Weekly Schedule for Marching Band

Monday: 1st Hour Class A or B Day, Full Band 5:00pm-9:00pm

Tuesday: 1st Hour Class A or B Day

Wednesday: 7:00 am through 1st Hour, Sectionals 3:15-4:45pm

Thursday: 7:00 am through 1st Hour, Full Band 5:00pm-9:00pm

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Friday: 1st Hour Class, Football Games (when applicable)

Saturday: Rehearsals, Parades, Contests (when applicable)

Typical Contest Day for Marching Band (Saturdays)

Potential morning rehearsal at BEHS and/or Depart BEHS for contest site in the morning

Prelims Performance Late Morning/Early Afternoon and Lunch provided by Boosters

Finals Performance Late Afternoon/Early Evening and Dinner provided by Boosters

Alternates/Shadow System

This system will be utilized once the marching band exceeds 150 members. To ensure that every position in the show is filled by a performer throughout the season Alternates and Shadows may be utilized. Students will be given the alternate or shadow status prior to band camp and will be determined by directors and staff over the training that occurs in the early summer. Students designated as alternates will be deemed to have some challenges in acquiring the necessary skill sets for performance. Shadows are students who have insufficient acquisition of the skill sets necessary to perform. Alternates are two students who share a position in the competitive show and will alternate repetitions and performances. One of the two alternates may eventually earn the position as their own shedding the alternate status. Alternate students will participate fully in every rehearsal and will know in advance which performances they will be participating in. Shadows will be assigned to a section leader and will be assigned the same performance position as a section leader. Shadows will be under the direct guidance and mentorship of our most skilled performers. Should a position in that section become available the section leader will move to the open position and the shadow will assume the position occupied by the section leader. This is the only circumstance in which a shadow will perform in the marching production.

Dress Policy

Dress appropriately at all times. Students may have attire expectations when out of uniform at competitions and on trips. No offensive or revealing clothing is permitted. School dress codes are still enforced in rehearsal and on trips. For outdoor marching band rehearsals, light colored athletic clothing (t-shirt and gym shorts), comfortable athletic shoes, and socks are required.

Marching Band Uniforms - Wear your uniform with pride! When you are in uniform, you are representing Bellevue East High School and the tradition of excellence of the Bellevue East High School Band. Horsing around, playing games, running, cursing, and public displays of affection are not allowed in uniform. No food or drink, other than water, may be consumed in uniform. Cell phones are not permitted in uniform. Additional water consumption is required while in uniform.

Under the Uniform - While in uniform the shirt will be designated by band directors as either the purple shirt or the show shirt. Students must wear shorts under their uniform. They may wear the black gym shorts or black spandex or bicycle shorts. Our competitive venues will not provide changing areas for students to get in to

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uniform. Students must come prepared to get in uniform in a public area. Students will need calf-length or longer black socks.

Uniforms in Cold Weather - Students will be given instruction on additional layers for performing in cold weather. Often students will add layers too soon, get sweaty from performance, and still be exposed to the elements putting them in an unsafe situation. Please trust the experience and guidance of directors on this matter.

Hair, Piercings, Make Up and Other Accessories - Students will be given appearance expectations for hair, nails, and makeup. It is part of creating characterizations that effect the audience. Generally Advice:

Hair - Students with hair long enough to put up off the neck will be asked to put their hair up.

Students should plan for natural hair color unless told otherwise.

Please ask if accommodations need to be made for various types of natural hair.

Piercings - Students should be prepared to remove or conceal all visible piercings.

Make Up - Color Guard will be given make up expectations. Winds and Percussion performers may be asked to wear costume make up to coordinate with the theme of the show. Winds and Percussion performers will always be asked not to wear make up in our traditional marching uniforms. Please ask for accommodations if instructions fail to account for your skin tone.

Rehearsal Attire - Once band camp has concluded most rehearsals will include required attire. There are two options, purple rehearsal shirt and section color attire. The purple rehearsal shirts are included in the fees for new members. New and returning members may purchase additional rehearsal shirts through the band office. Section colors will be determined and communicated in the summer. The first time students are expected to be in section colors happens during the second week of band camp.

Concert Dress Attire - Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble performers will perform in 'Concert Dress' attire. Students will be fit for these items during October. Two options will be provided for students Option 1 a full length concert dress, Option 2 tuxedo pants, white tuxedo shirt, black bow tie, and black vest. All student will need to provide black shoes and black socks/stockings. Students account will be billed for these items when ordered.

Bellevue East Band Apparel - Due to copyright restrictions, no one is allowed to produce Bellevue East High School clothing or Band Program clothing without the consent of Bellevue East administration and Director of Bands. All section attire needs to be approved by Mr. Krug in advance. There will be several opportunities to purchase apparel to support the band program throughout the summer and fall.

School Instruments

Bellevue East High School provides instruments for students who perform on larger or specialized instruments. These instruments, cases, and accessories are property of Bellevue East High School and Bellevue Public Schools. Instruments will be checked out in good working condition and should be returned as such. Students are responsible for any repairs due to negligence while the instrument is checked out.

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A-Wing, Band Room, and Band Locker Cleanliness

The A-Wing is home to over 400+ performing arts students. The band rooms are home to 200+ students, staff, and faculty. The band department should feel like home, but please do your part to keep the performing arts area clean and a good representation of the Bellevue East Band Program. Band lockers are a privilege, not a right. Please leave all of your personal belongings, clothing, books, instrument, case, and accessories INSIDE your locker AT ALL TIMES. Any materials left out will be confiscated. If your book bag does not fit inside your locker, please set it on the floor up against the lockers out of the way of the rest of the room. Keep your locker locked. There are often other events and activities that utilize our space. Music faculty will not be held responsible for missing items. There is absolutely no food or drink in the band room, unless for a special approved event. If you see trash, pick it up. If the chairs and stands are messy, fix them. If you move something, put it back. EVERYONE is responsible for the cleanliness of the performing arts areas!

Electronic Device Policy

Cell phones and tablets have become incredibly useful tools for learning. They will be utilized in rehearsal both in the marching and concert settings. The temptation to use devices in unproductive and distracting ways is very real. Students, like adults, are expected to utilize them in a professional manner. Students and staff are expected to refrain from social media during rehearsals and interact in meaningful ways with each other while in rehearsal, even on breaks.

Social Media Policy

As a member of the Bellevue East Band, everything you say and do is a direct reflection of the band program. Posting any material that reflects negatively upon the Bellevue East Band will not be tolerated and disciplinary action can be taken. This could include (but is not limited to) material that chastises other members and sections, other band programs, or other school and district programs. Once something is posted, even in a place you believe is private, it is in the public domain forever.

Copyright

Due to copyright laws, please do not video or audio record any portion of rehearsals or performances. Furthermore, please do not share or post any rehearsal or performance videos on social media, YouTube, etc. Failure to comply may result in legal action against Bellevue Public Schools, Bellevue East High School, The Bellevue East Band Program, and/or yourself directly.

Letter & Chevron Awards

Students who complete their first full year of marching band will receive their varsity letter. Students who complete an additional full year of marching band along with symphonic band or wind ensemble or winter guard will receive a letter jacket chevron.

Grade Policy

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Students with more than 1 “F” in a class will be held from performance in football games, competitions or other opportunities in the band department(ie, recruitment trips, special performances). Band directors may be notified of grade improvement by student communication with confirmation via PowerSchool or by email from the teacher.

GPS (Guided Personal Study) Policy

GPS happens at the end of each school day. The goal of GPS is to allow students to have time to be productive how they deem most appropriate. Students should use this time to do homework, visit teachers for help, make up tests, practice their instruments, hold sectionals, or for other academic purposes. If you would like to come down to the band room during GPS, please obtain a pass from an instructor early in the day. Be sure the instructor puts the correct date along with their signature on the pass – the pass is only valid for that day. You will not be given a pass if you have any class with an “F” grade. When you arrive at the band room, please sign-in on the GPS Sign-In form online. Should you leave GPS please sign out utilizing the appropriate online form. While you are in the band room, you should be doing one of the following only: 1) practicing your instrument, or 2) doing homework quietly. It should NOT be used for socialization, but for academic purposes only. Coming to the band room during GPS is privilege. Please utilize it appropriately.

Basketball Pep Band

Basketball Pep Band is a fun and exciting part of the band program, which performs at selected Bellevue East home basketball games and any postseason games. The performance schedule will be released as soon as the basketball game schedule is available. All band students will be distributed into two bands: ‘Purple Band’ or ‘White Band.’ Attendance at scheduled games is required as part of the grade for all band students. Student will be expected to attend 4-5 home basketball games. Postseason games will be made available on a volunteer basis and all students may not be able to attend.

Travel Policies

- 1) Due to district and NSAA/NSBA policies, all students are required to travel with the band to and from events. The only exceptions include travel from another school event during the same day or early release with a guardian following an event. Any exceptions must be approved in writing with Mr. Krug at least a week in advance. Students must check in or check out directly with a director alongside their parent or guardian.
- 2) Obey chaperones, staff, and directors at all times. They are here for everyone’s safety.
- 3) Roll will be called every time people enter a bus. Do not answer for other students.
- 4) When given free time, do not go off on your own. Everyone must remain with a buddy.
- 5) Dress appropriately. School dress codes are still enforced on trips. No offensive, questionable, or revealing clothing is permitted.
- 6) No alcoholic beverages, drugs, tobacco, electronic cigarettes, weapons, or fireworks are allowed at any time on a trip. Any illegal substances will be dealt with by local authorities.

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Hotel Trip Policy

- 1) No one is allowed to leave the hotel at any time unless otherwise noted on the itinerary.
- 2) No students of the opposite sex are allowed in your hotel room at any time.
- 3) You may not enter the room of any adult in our organization, except your own parent/guardian.
- 4) No visitors are allowed at the hotel.
- 5) You are not allowed to enter the room of any other hotel guests.
- 6) You should not be in any hotel corridors other than those assigned to our group.
- 7) Doors connecting adjacent rooms must remain closed at all times.
- 8) Do not lean out of hotel room windows or throw objects from windows or balconies.
- 9) All students must be in their assigned rooms during the times listed on the itinerary.
- 10) You may not use room services or pay per view.
- 11) You may only utilize food delivery services with the permission of directors.
- 12) Hotel pools and exercise equipment is only available with permission of a director.
- 13) Do not use the hotel phones unless to contact a chaperone.
- 14) Consequences for breaking these rules may include the students parents being called to pick them up immediately.

Marching Band Student Fees

Student Fees cover production items for the Chieftain Marching Band's competitive show. Those items will include design (music, drill, choreography, copyright etc), scenic elements (props, tarps, flags, etc.), costuming (includes shoes and gloves), apparel (show shirt and rehearsal shirt), travel expenses (hotel), and various supplies for a successful season (UDB, binders, etc.). Balances can be paid in full at any time. Payments can be made by card through CutTime. Payments can be made by cash or check by placing it in the the deposit box in the small band room.

Student Fees are \$600 for the 2026 season. The fees can be paid all at once or broken up in to the following schedule: Deposit/Payment #1 \$150 May 14, Payment #2 \$150 June 15, Payment #3 \$150 July 15, Payment #4 \$150 August 17.

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