

*Millikan High School  
Marching Arts  
Handbook*



Millikan High School  
2800 Snowden Avenue  
Long Beach, CA 90815  
(562) 425-7441



## *Contact Information*

Director of Bands: Rudolf Picanco

Director of Orchestras: Cindy Luu-Campos

Music Room Phone: (562) 997-8000 X 4142 (*will not be available until August*)

E-mail: [RPicanco@lbschools.net](mailto:RPicanco@lbschools.net) (best way to contact me)

School Website: [www.millikanmusic.com](http://www.millikanmusic.com)

### ***What to wear to Band Camp:***

What each student is asked to wear each day of band camp:

- Plain white t-shirt or athletic tops. **Do Not** wear all black, thick, or heavy clothing. It will be hot and sunny; to stay healthy we must dress appropriately for the weather.
- Shorts that allow students to move with ease. Think running or cross training clothing. We recommend exercise-type shorts/pants. **NO Jeans!**
- Light weight cross training or running shoes & socks (nothing that will slip off your feet – no flip flops, no skate shoes, no flats or chucks)
- Sun Screen
- Hat to keep your head cool and the sun out of your eyes
- Sunglasses to keep the sun out of your eyes. We will often be facing in the direction of the sun, this can be extremely difficult without sunglasses or a hat to shield your vision
- Music mask for COVID precautions. If you do not have one we will supply you with one

### ***What you should bring to Band Camp***

- Instrument in working condition with necessary equipment (if you need to borrow a school instrument, please e-mail Mr. Picanco ASAP. [rpicanco@lbschools.net](mailto:rpicanco@lbschools.net) )
- Music in a 3-ring binder with sheet protectors, a designated pencil for that binder and paperclips for music when students are playing outside. (colorguard exempt)
- Dot book – students will receive this during the first week of band camp and are required to bring it to **EVERY REHEARSAL** (band camp and during the fall semester).
- Water Bottle(s) – 1 gallon jug is recommended as well as Camelbacks®, do not bring a small 12-24 oz. water bottle with the intention of refilling it. These small water bottles do not come close to the amount of water you will need during a rehearsal and you will not have enough time to refill it often enough
- Snack, packed-lunch and/or money to purchase during the one-hour lunch break. Eat well, and eat responsibly. This is a highly physical activity, eat like you're an athlete because you all are athletes now.
- Instrument/equipment in working condition
- Pencil



- **Brass** – mouthpiece, valve oil, slide oil, slide grease
- **Clarinets & Saxophones** – mouthpiece, ligature, mouthpiece cap, 5 usable reeds, cork grease, cleaning swab or the like, and a neck strap (saxophones). Cleaning
- **Flutes** – cleaning rod and cloth.
- **Percussion** - practice pad, stick tape, sticks, stick bag (battery)
- **Colorguard** - white/black electrical tape, gloves

### ***Rehearsal Guidelines for MHS Marching Programs***

1. Each student is expected to be on time, if not early, to all rehearsal/performance functions, with instruments and ready to begin. If you are on time, you are late!
2. The student is expected to have both their instrument and music ready prior to starting for all rehearsals and performances. Colorguard members are expected to have their equipment in hand and ready to warm-up.
3. Students should have a pencil ready to mark rehearsal suggestions (No ink pens!) and dot changes.
4. Students should behave considerately to whomever is on the podium, whether it be the director, drum major or a guest of the band.
5. Students should treat school owned instruments and equipment like their own. Any loss or damage of the instrument will be the student's liability and will be assessed accordingly.
6. There are four (4) places your instrument, flag, or ruffle should be (school owned or privately owned)
  - In your hands
  - Lined up in a section
  - Lined up in the cases
  - In your band locker/storage spot
7. Cell phones are NOT ALLOWED during rehearsal. They may be in your car, locker, backpack or purse. If you need to contact your child for an emergency you may call the director.



## *What to expect?*

You will work hard, you will be tired at the end of the day, and yes, you will love every minute of it! The MHS Band department and its competitive ensembles require a degree of physical training and conditioning. It is part of the curriculum of each ensemble to develop and maintain a certain level of athletic coordination and conditioning that in turn is part of the program for competitions. With this understood there are several guidelines the staff and students need to be aware of and follow.

- Marching Band/Colorguard at Millikan High School is a PE credited course because of the athletic and competitive nature of the activity
- All students and parents are aware that physical conditioning, training and endurance are an integral part of the skill sets required for any type of success of the extra-curricular or co- curricular activities
- Activities such as running, push-ups, or other cardio based exercises are a regular occurrence at rehearsals, especially during band camp when students are building their strength and endurance for their competitive show.
- Students will not be pushed beyond their ability to maintain a personal safety level. They will not be punished for being unable to complete the physical skill set that is being required of them. Alternative reinforcements can and will be found to alleviate the unsafe situation.

Practice, especially the early days, can seem a lot like boot camp. Endurance training like running and push-ups help the kids get physically ready for some very long days ahead. For some children it is a very intense experience that can leave them feeling frustrated and off balance. How you handle this is likely based on your parenting style and your child's personality. Try not to blow off your child's concerns, but try to keep in mind there are some valuable life lessons to be learned about working with others. Talk to them, support them and encourage them to hang in there. Only you really know your child and whether this program is going to be too much. Before you make any final decisions, talk to the directors and maybe an experienced band parent. Perhaps they can offer insight and suggestions on how to get past this hurdle



## *Grading*

- 30 % Playing and marching tests
- 30 % Attendance (Each day is 10 points. Each tardy is -2 points to the AM or PM practice). **All band camp rehearsals are required.** Please plan your vacations, doctors appointments, family affairs accordingly.)
- 20 % Daily participation effort and contribution to the ensemble. If you are improving and have a great attitude, this will not be a problem.
- 20 % Daily Dress (See above – “What to Wear”). If any of these items are not met, he/she will receive zero credit for that day. 3 or more violations = zero in daily dress for band camp
- 10 % Performances & Events (for each performance/event missed, his/her grade will be automatically lowered one-letter grade.)

***Punctuality:*** Being on time and on schedule is the cornerstone of a successful marching program. Students will be marked tardy if they are not ready with their equipment to the designated location and time. So please plan on being 15 minutes early to each call/rehearsal time.

***Playing & Marching Tests:*** On a weekly to bi-weekly basis, students will be assessed on their music (memorized) as well as marching & music. Students must practice their music and marching at home on a daily basis of 30-45 minutes minimum. Much of our band camp will be learning and memorizing the “Pre-Game,” “Field Show Music” and “Stands Tunes.” Students will be tested and graded on the memorization and performance of their music. We understand that this can be a lot to handle for incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade students, and some have never memorized music before. As long as everyone does their absolute best, we will make a great team.



Student Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Ensemble \_\_\_\_\_

## MHS Band & Colorguard Performance Contract

I affirm that I have read the current Millikan Marching Arts Handbook. I also understand that dates/times are subject to change. I understand that it is my responsibility to continue to view updated calendars at our website, [www.millikanmusic.com](http://www.millikanmusic.com), and check Email, Remind, & Canvas. I certify that I have read and understand my personal responsibilities to the performance groups I am a part of.

The performing groups sponsored by the school are sometimes asked to make public appearances, and students entering these classes have a special opportunity to serve the school and our community. To this end, all students enrolled in the instrumental music program must observe the following:

Each student registering for courses which require public performances, must sign, together with parent or guardian, the following written agreement:

***I have been informed that it is mandatory for all students in performing groups to participate in rehearsals, public performances, and other school activities in which these classes properly function. I understand that if I fail to comply with this regulation, the following penalties may be invoked unless I have been excused in advance by our Director.***

*Penalties may include:*

1. I may be excluded from performances.
2. My grade may be lowered.
3. I may be dropped from the class without credit.

*\*NOTE: I certify that should I, the student, fail to participate in the last full run-through of the show prior to a performance (football game, competition, etc), I will not be allowed to perform in said performance, because doing so may result in serious injury to my fellow performers.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature                      Date



Student Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Ensemble \_\_\_\_\_

## MHS Band & Colorguard Social Media Contract

### Social Media - Code of Conduct

Social media refers to electronic communication through which users create and share information, messages and other content. Any digital magazine, internet forum, web-blog, podcast, photograph, video, rating and social bookmarking found on websites or applications including, but not limited to: Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat or Tumblr, that is open to public viewing is considered social media. New forms of social media are constantly emerging and these, though not named, are also included in this policy. Violations of this policy are subject to investigation, and in some cases are also subject to review by state and federal law enforcement. Any and all disciplinary measures may apply depending on the severity of the infraction.

Millikan High School marching band and colorguard performers are expected to conduct themselves in a respectable manner as representatives of the Millikan music program, Millikan High School and the Long Beach Unified School District. As a student in this organization you are responsible for your social media use and are expected to use it appropriately. Any malicious use of social media platforms will result in discipline.

Malicious use may include, but not be limited to:

1. Derogatory language or remarks regarding fellow athletes, students, coaches, administrators, faculty and staff of Millikan High School or other high schools.
2. Demeaning statements or threats that endanger the safety of another individual.
3. Photos or statements depicting and/or encouraging illegal criminal behavior, underage drinking, use of illegal drugs, sexual harassment or violence.

**As a member of this organization I have reviewed and carefully read, with my parent(s)/ legal guardian, the Social Media Policy and agree to abide to all provisions contained within. Furthermore, I understand that a violation of said rules may result in discipline including loss of athletic privileges and/or suspension from participation.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature                      Date