



Everything you wanted to know about the

Pleasant Valley Marching Band

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Schedule:

- Our full schedule is always available on our website: www.pvband.org under the calendar heading.

Practices:

- We have introductory practices in May each year.
- Our most important practices of the season are the first two weeks of August (Band Camp – see below).
- Once the new school year starts, we practice every Tuesday and Thursday after school until 5:00 PM.

Band Camp:

- Band Camp is the first two weeks in August (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday – for two weeks). These are our most important practices and is when we learn most, if not all, of our marching band show and pep songs!
- We always start on the first Monday of August and continue for two weeks.
- Practices are from 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM.
- Students are fed lunch and we sometimes have ice pops and ice cream in the afternoon (more on meal fees later).
- We ask for dessert donations during these two weeks. *Monday = freshmen, Tuesday = sophomores, Wednesday = juniors, Thursday = seniors.* Please donate a dessert that is ready for individual servings. Thanks!

Competitions:

- The marching band competes in several competitions each year which end with the marching band State Championships at West Chester University!
- All competitions are on Saturdays.
- These are our most important performances of the season! Make sure you clear your schedule for these important performances!
- A typical Saturday competition schedule would be....arrive at the school for practice, eat dinner at the school (see meal fees), get dressed and load buses, perform at the competition, load buses and return home.
- If family or friends want to attend a competition, ticket prices are typically \$10 (State Championships is more).
- These are nice long days for us. These are the most exciting days for the band!



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Football Games:

- The band performs at all home and away football games (unless we have a Saturday competition that conflicts with a Saturday away game).
- All home games are Friday night from 7:00 PM until around 9:30 PM (all games end at different times).
- On Fridays, if we have school that day, the students will stay after school for a brief practice, then be fed dinner followed by getting dressed and marching over to the stadium (or getting on the bus for an away game).
- Students will be given a break during every football game to purchase food/snacks (they will need their own money for this).
- The band usually performs during PREGAME at HOME football games. Pregame starts around 6:35 PM. The exception to this is during senior recognition (the last home football game). For this game, we will play our full show immediately after the football game.
- At AWAY games, we usually only perform a small part of our show due to time constraints. Sometimes the host band is generous enough to “donate” some of their field time which allows us to perform our entire show. I won't know this until a few days before the actual football game.

Other Performances:

- At the end of August we always host a “Parent Preview Night” in the stadium. This is when we showcase everything we have learned from band camp to our family and friends. It's also the first official performance of the marching band!
- In addition, we play on the first Monday of the West End Fair (at the end of August) at 5:30 PM in the band pavilion. The band typically plays a bunch of pep songs and ends with the show music.

Twitter: @pvband_org

- We use twitter to send out reminders and to let everyone know when we expect to return home (to the high school) from away football games and competitions.
- You don't need to have twitter to check these messages. All of our messages are automatically uploaded to our website: www.pvband.org

Meal Fee:

- We have a terrific Band Parent organization! They organize food and meals for our band camp, football games, competitions, and awards ceremony.
- We charge a \$175 meal fee. This includes over 20 meals and other snacks! Meals are provided for...



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- Every day at band camp
- Every competition (two meals for the day of State Championships!)
- Every football game unless there is no school that day
- Dessert/coffee at the Awards Ceremony
- The meal fee is due the first day of band camp.
- All of our meals are “all you can eat”. At band camp, we typically have a hot meal item (or two), a salad/fruit bar, dessert, and several drink options.
- We do provide alternative food items for those with special dietary restrictions.
- We have our meals catered by local area restaurants. So all of the money goes back into our community.
- All meals are served by our band parents.

Shoe Fee:

- Marching Shoes are \$39.
- Each student wears special marching band shoes which not only help them march better, but also make it safer (no twisted ankles).

Gloves:

- Your first pair of marching band gloves are FREE!
- If you lose them or need another pair they are \$5.

Band Parent Organization:

- Our Band Parents are the BEST! They help plan meals, serve meals, run our concession stand at football games (and concerts too!), organize fundraisers and handle all of the financial stuff so I can focus on the music!
- During the school year, we have meetings the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 PM in the High School Band Room. All are welcome.
- If every parent helped at just one event, we would have more than enough helpers for everything that we do for our children.
- If you want to get involved, there will be a sign-up sheet available during our end of August “Parent Preview Night”.

Fundraisers:

- Our first fundraiser of the year is a Clothing Fundraiser. We offer all sorts of clothing with our band logo. They make great gifts too!
- Every year we have a Fruit Sale that is delivered in time for Christmas. The sale starts at the end of October and runs through mid-November. You can even have your order sent directly to ANY address!



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- Save your receipts from Shoprite and Weis. All of our local grocery store receipts (Brodheads ville) can be turned into money for the band. Turn in your receipts to the clear box just inside the band room (it's labeled "receipts").
- We have a Gift Card fundraiser that runs all year long. Just fill out the gift card order form on our website and turn it in to Mr. DeVivo. Gift cards usually arrive in 2-3 weeks and make great gifts.
- Buy food from our Concession Stand at football games! It is on the visitor's side of the field, directly across from the main entrance to the stadium.

Financial concerns?

- We never want money to be a reason why a student isn't in the band! If you have any concerns about making payments, please contact Mr. DeVivo. All financial arrangements will be kept confidential.

If you have any questions please email me at devivo.james@pvbears.org

Thanks for being a part of our award-winning marching band!

Sincerely,

Mr. James DeVivo