



ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

Darrell S. Keech, *Director*

1157 Route 55, LaGrangeville, NY 12540

Phone 845.486.4860 x70285

dkeech@acsdny.org

April 2, 2024

To All Prospective Marching Band Members & Their Families:

It gives me great pride to welcome you to our 57th year of the award-winning Arlington High School Marching Band (AHSMB)! The Band is the five-time New York State Champions and will hope to welcome over 40 new members this season!! The staff has been at work for months getting ready for an exciting, fun, and positively memorable 2024 season.

The amount of exciting news and information is too great to be included in a letter, so each year we gather to “kick-off” and register for our new season. At that time, you will have many questions answered, receive lots of information, meet people from each part of the band (students and parents), hear about our very important volunteer opportunities, find out information about the show theme for the next year, sign-up for the 2024 Marching Band, and much more!!

There are two items that I would like to bring to your attention now: first, marching band does cost money, but we have established programs that allow everyone to participate no matter what their financial situation. *NO ONE SHOULD MISS OUT BECAUSE OF MONEY ISSUES!!* Second, many students think the Marching Band is “very time-consuming.” It does take time, but **WE REHEARSE LESS THAN MOST SPORTS TEAMS AT AHS**. We practice only *two nights a week* once school starts. We find that Marching Band, good grades, and a successful first year at Arlington can go together!!!

Below you will find an outline of our schedule through the summer. This is a great overview, but not a complete list. The most accurate calendar can be found on our website. Our spring schedule overview is as follows:

- **Woodwinds, Brass, Percussion & Color Guard “Meet-and-Greet” and rehearsals**
Sessions are a few hours each week starting at the end of April (winds, percussion) or May (guard). Check <https://www.arlingtonschools.org/marchingband> for details.
- **KICK-OFF TO REGISTRATION MEETING - SUNDAY, May 19th @ 2:00pm in the Arlington HS Auditorium**
- **SUMMER REHEARSALS*** - One per week, Wednesdays in July and early August.**
Check the website calendar for more details. If you have a vacation or music camp planned for a few weeks of this time, don’t worry you can still be a part of the Band!!

***Summer vacations and music camps are valid excuses for missing two (2) of the summer rehearsals; missing more than 2 rehearsals could jeopardize your place in the field show (Member vs. Marcher). If you feel like you might miss too many rehearsals and still want to be a part of this amazing group, contact Mr. Keech as soon as possible and we can work on options that can work for you!!

“A Commitment to Excellence”
www.arlingtonschools.org/marchingband



ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

Darrell S. Keech, *Director*

1157 Route 55, LaGrangeville, NY 12540

Phone 845.486.4860 x70285

dkeech@acsdny.org

- **BAND CAMP WEEKS - MANDATORY FOR ALL MEMBERS/MARCHERS**

August 12th-16th & 19th-23rd, Monday-Friday, 8am – 5pm

Our first show is the Parent Night/Band Camp wrap up - Friday, August 23rd at 6:00 pm in the AHS Stadium!

- **PERFORMANCES – The highlight of our season!!**

We perform at home football games, local parades, and competitions in Connecticut and New York State. Most of our performance dates are below. A complete schedule will be on our website by May so you can make sure it works with your schedule before you join.

2024 Performance Tentative Schedule

Day	Date	Event
Friday	Aug 23	Parent Night and Show Debut @ Arlington HS
Friday	Sept 6	Home Football Game
Saturday	Sept 7	USBands Competition – Bethel HS, CT
Saturday	Sept 14	NYSFBC Competition @ Mohonasen HS
Friday	Sept 20	Home Football Game
Sunday	Sept 22	NYSFBC Competition @ Copiague HS
Saturday	Sept 28	NYSFBC Competition @ Malverne HS
Sunday	Oct 13	NYSFBC Competition @ Arlington HS
Friday	Oct 18	Home Football Game
Sunday	Oct 20	NYSFBC Competition @ Kingston HS
Saturday	Oct 26	Parent Show and Senior Recognition @ Arlington HS
Sun-Mon	Oct 27-28	NYSFBC State Championships – Syracuse University
Sat	Nov 2	TENTATIVE – USBANDS National Championship @ Metlife Stadium, NJ

At any time, if you have a question, do not hesitate to contact Mr. Keech. I sincerely hope you are as excited about our season as I am. Your talents and great energy will help guarantee a great year filled with great friends, great memories, and GREAT PERFORMANCES!!

Sincerely,

Darrell Keech, Director

“A Commitment to Excellence”

www.arlingtonschools.org/marchingband