Lassiter High School
Band Handbook
2021 – 2022

1998 and 2002 Grand
National Champions

A Celebrated Past...
A Magnificent Present...
A Spectacular Future...

James Thompson Jr., Director of Bands
Jeff Harper, Associate Director
Kimberly Snyder, Assistant Director

2601 Shallowford Rd, Marietta, GA 30066
Lassiterbands.org
WHAT DO STUDENTS GET OUT OF BAND?
10 Surprising Benefits of the Lassiter Band Experience

Lassiter Band students will ...

1. ... have a **positive peer group** to ease the transition to high school prior to the first day of school
2. ... have a **teamwork experience** to gain interpersonal skills in large and small group settings
3. ... have a strong sense of internal and external **discipline**
4. ... learn to **balance and prioritize** homework with extracurricular activities
5. ... be exposed to an environment that instills, celebrates and pursues **excellence** as a habit. Our students regularly experience the best instruction and knowledge, and this is infectious.
6. ... gain **courage, resolve, and strength of character** in a safe environment that allows for emotional and physical adolescent growth. Band Students gain **satisfaction** from the pursuit of excellence, regardless of the outcome.
7. ... gain **communication** and **conflict resolution skills**.
8. ... have opportunities to explore service-based **leadership**.
9. ... gain **intellectual stimulation** from the study of human artistry. It is the study of humanities that make us more human: more compassionate, empathic, conscious, loving, and honorable human beings.
10. ... make **lifelong friendships** and **connections**.

Disneyland CA, 2019
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Lassiter Marching Band’s Competition Philosophy

Competition is an inescapable reality in American culture. We compete for resources, wealth, grades, sports, and even scholarships. Stated plainly, competition exists. What is more important than competition, however, is how and why we compete. Understanding this is the core of our co-curricular activity. It is the goal of the Lassiter band program to create the most comprehensive artistic experience through the development of musical and physical artistry. This is achieved through competition.

Marching band is not a sport; there is no offense or defense associated it. As such, there are truthfully no winners or losers. We don’t compete against or “beat” other schools. The marching band assessment is criterion-referenced; meaning, our students perform against a fixed set of predetermined criteria or learning standards. Our competitions are much more akin to academic competition than athletic competition.

We compete with dignity and class through the enthusiastic support and encouragement of all bands that engage in competitive assessment with us. There are no winners and losers in academics. We acknowledge and rank superior academic achievement. Similarly, there are no winners and losers in marching competition, only the ranking of musical and visual achievement as we explore the upper limits of our artistic, musical, physical, and mental potential. Competition is our opportunity to pursue the best version of ourselves.

Ultimately, in band, our students compete against themselves. Students learn who they are and what values drive our program. Amongst other things, students learn and analyze valuable life necessities that are poorly or inadequately measured in the academic arena. The band explores and expands its individual and collective grit, discipline, work ethic, integrity, caring, passion, compassion, teamwork, pride, esprit de corps, and confidence ... just to name a few. These values are important but are not incorporated in the traditional academic grade point average. And rarely are these values factored in during behavior grades. Our program uses musical competition to become stronger individuals, better citizens, and ultimately better people.

The Lassiter band’s competition season is the culmination of habits learned, choices made, and skills refined. Each performance provides us with an opportunity to explore the true version of ourselves. That is why we compete in the Lassiter High School Marching Trojan Band.

---

James E. Thompson, Jr.
Director of Bands

Jeff Harper
Associate Director of Bands

Kimberly Snyder
Assistant Director of Bands
Lassiter High School Marching Trojan Band

From Lassiter High School, a school of excellence

The Lassiter Marching Band is a 140-member student organization in which instrumental musicians perform while marching for entertainment or competition, accompanied by a color guard which adds a visual interpretation to the music using dance, props, flags, rifles, and swords.

The Marching Band is just a part of a broader artistic curriculum that includes Symphonic I Band, Symphonic II Band, Concert I Band, Concert II Band, Jazz Band, Flute Choir, Clarinet Choir, Saxophone Choir, Trumpet Choir, Trombone Choir, Percussion Ensembles I-II, Brass Ensembles, Woodwind Ensembles, Dance Classes, Winter Guard A and Novice (Color Guard’s winter/spring ensemble).

Organization

In addition to the band helping to increase each student’s musical skills, it teaches an important component to success: leadership. The band program is set up to rely upon the students to provide their own leaders and encourage them to take ownership of the success of their respective areas, under the oversight of the band’s directors.

Band Officers: consist of president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, communications officer, chaplain, librarians, and parliamentarian. Officers are nominated by the outgoing senior class and chosen by a vote from the entire band.

Each instrument section (flute, trombone, color guard, etc.) has 1 or 2 Section Leaders (depending on group size and need) and one or more Assistant Section Leaders. Their role is to provide direction and support in music, marching, and discipline.

The band is under the field direction of four Drum Majors who direct the band on and off the marching field. Their role is to provide direction in music, marching, and discipline.

Section Leaders and Drum Majors are selected by the Directors through an audition process at the end of a week-long leadership clinic in the spring. Ultimately, these leaders are responsible for instruction in drill and maneuvering, music, discipline, and the usual tasks associated with being a member of the Lassiter Band program.

Activities

The Marching Band performs in service to esprit de corps through on-field marching, parades and community outreach.

Field Performances are learned and practiced during band camp, 2 weeks of intensive training before the Fall semester. Practice continues after school and on certain weekends. Performances occur at Half-Time during football games, at the annual Cobb County Exhibition, for a special community performance and at competitions such as Bands of America.

Parades are less frequent but will probably occur at least once in a student’s career at Lassiter. The band has marched several times in the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade and the Tournament of Roses Parade as well as the Cherry Blossom Festival Parade in Washington, DC and several local parades.
Time Commitment & Communication

We make no bones about it ... marching band is time consuming. Band camp, after school practices, all-day Saturday practices, Friday football games, competitions (some overnight), parades, section rehearsals, concerts. Whew.

But greatness comes from time and practice. And it pays off when you see them on the field, in a parade, or on TV. This is one of the many reasons why the Marching Trojan Band is nationally recognized.

So, here’s some heads-up on time commitments ...

1. Add about 15 minutes before and 30 minutes after stated practice times.
   Rehearsal times are just that: when rehearsal stops and starts. Students are expected to ... 
   • **Arrive Early**: To start on time, you have to arrive early to set up. Students will be told to arrive 10-15 minutes early. Student Leadership arrives even earlier.

   “If you’re early, you’re on time. If you’re on time, you’re late. If you’re late, we’ll see you when we get back.”

   • **Plan on Leaving Late**: After “close out”, students still have sectional meetings, need to put instruments away, clean up, etc. And sometimes practice goes late. Plan for you student to be ready to go 20-30 minutes after the stated end time of practices and rehearsals.

2. But be ready to take your student home when they’re ready to go.
   Our safety policy states that our adult chaperones won’t leave until the last student leaves, can drive him or herself home or is the custody of their parents. So out of respect for our hard-working chaperones, have a plan (arrive on time, carpooling, texting, etc.) so that your student leaves or is in your care when rehearsal or performance is over.

**LBBA Communication**

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<tr>
<th><strong>Emails</strong></th>
<th><strong>Monthly Parent Meetings</strong></th>
<th><strong>General Student Text Reminders</strong></th>
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</table>
| Regular “LBBA Blast” emails will be sent describing upcoming events and needs. During the marching season we’ll try and limit these to 2 per week. Concert season will be 1 per week. Please read each email. | **LBBA General Meeting** | Students (mandatory) and Parents (optional) 
Text @lbands to B1010 
Each section/subgroup has text reminders, too, and will be given when that group meets. It’s important for students to sign up as soon as possible for these. |
| Sign up here: [http://eepurl.com/dDqaZ5](http://eepurl.com/dDqaZ5) | Vital information about the band program is presented at each monthly meeting. The budget is presented and updates from committees and procedures for upcoming events are discussed. It’s important that at least one family member is present. | Text the appropriate code to B1010 
Code = “@LBBA” + graduation year 
(ex: @LBBA2025 if your student is in the class of 2025) |
Financial Responsibility & Payments

Core Marching Band Fees

Core fees are mandatory and apply to all Marching Band members (see the Appendix of this Handbook for the current year fees). The fee covers:

- Development of all show elements: Marching drill, Music, Props, Scrims, etc.
- **Band Camp**: July
  - Music clinicians & Marching Instruction
  - All band camp activities and meals
- **Marching Season**: August-November
  - Music clinicians & Marching Instruction
  - Uniform Rental (See Uniform Section)
  - Meals during most practices, rehearsals, away football games, and competitions
- **Concert Season**: December-May
  - Concert Uniform Rental (See Uniform Section)
- **Hydration and snacks** at all events through the season

Note:

- Core fees **do not include** travel costs associated with the special competitions or events.
- Core fees **do not include** the Concert Season fees or Winter Guard season fees
- **Core fees are non-refundable after the first week of school.**
- Payment by cash, check (payable to LBBA) or credit card (2.5% convenience fee for credit payments)
- Core fees **do not include** the purchase of Marching and Guard uniform accessories (marching/performance shoes, t-shirts, gloves, sweatshirts, garment bags, ponchos, flag bags), which is required at Registration.

Optional Items for Purchase

- Football Season Tickets
- Printed Copy of LHS Marching Band Directory (digital copy is provided at no charge)
- **Spirit Wear**: Lassiter Band shirts, hats, hoodies, scarves, magnets, etc., prices vary
- **Seniors Only**: Commemorative Brick in front of Band Building
- **Seniors Only**: Trojan Head on Driveway (2-Color Spray-painted Band Logo)

It is the responsibility of each participant to faithfully fulfill their financial obligations and responsibilities to the band program. The program is almost entirely funded by the participating members, through fees and fundraising. Every attempt is made by the band faculty and booster leadership to minimize the program cost while providing a quality band program to all.

As a Not-For-Profit organization, operating reserves are not maintained to cover the failure of members to fulfill their obligations. Shortfall in collections and failure to fulfill financial obligations result in the reduction of current and future student services ... and ultimately result in higher future fees or the termination of important program activities.
The LBBA realizes that events occur which were not anticipated at the time of incurring band financial obligations and may prevent timely compliance. **These should be communicated immediately with the faculty, booster president or treasurer.** Every attempt will be made to work out a solution agreeable with all parties.

All payments of band obligations should be deposited in the black “mailbox” in the band room (sending cash is discouraged) or mailed to the LBBA address below. Indicate on your check/form which student and for what charge the payment is for to ensure accurate posting to your account.

Send payments and make checks payable to:
Lassiter Band Booster Association
PO Box 670253
Marietta GA 30066

There will be a charge of $25 applied to any check returned due to insufficient funds. Any member incurring two returned checks will be placed on a cash, certified check, or money order basis for the remainder of their participation in the band program.

**SCHOLARSHIPS**
Two scholarships are offered in the spring. They are presented at the Senior Breakfast.

**Alfred Watkins STEP Scholarship:** (**Seniors**)
Named after the band’s first director, a $1,000 scholarship is awarded to a male and female senior and $500 to the male and female runner-ups. This scholarship is by application and is in essay format. Essays are submitted anonymously and voted on by both previous band presidents with Mr. Watkins making the final selections.

**Chris King Memorial Scholarship:** (**Juniors and Seniors**)
Created in honor who Chris King, a Lassiter Band Alumni, who passed away in April 2016. The scholarship is based on character traits that his parents felt Chris embodied: kindness, helpfulness, accepting, and uplifting. Nominations come from the student body and are for both Band and Color Guard.

**Andrew Halloran Community Service Scholarship**
In memory of Andrew Halloran, a band parent and volunteer from 2014 to 2020, a scholarship has been established to honor his strong commitment to community service. A scholarship for $1,000 will be presented to one Lassiter Band senior each school year. This scholarship is based solely on community service hours.

**FINANCIAL HARDSHIPS**
While there are no scholarship funds available for band fees, other payment arrangements may be made on a case-by-case basis by contacting the LBBA Co-Presidents. All discussions and resulting arrangements will remain confidential.
Purpose of the Booster Association

The Lassiter Band Booster Association (LBBA) is the support structure for the Lassiter Band Program. As a parent-teacher organization, it provides ways and means to meet the needs of the Lassiter High School Band Program, above those supplied by the Cobb County School System. The LBBA does not direct the administrative activities of the band program nor control its policies. Rather, the LBBA supports and implements the programs and policies recommended by the Director of Bands.

The LBBA performs many of the administrative and logistical roles of the band program leaving the Directors free to do what they do best, TEACH. The size and caliber of this band program must have support from its boosters.

LBBA Organization

The LBBA consists of parents of current students in the Lassiter Band program, alumni students and parents, and community supporters. Per the LBBA by-laws, everyone who has a student in the program is automatically a member. Membership in the LBBA provides an excellent opportunity for you to support and connect with your student throughout his or her high school career.

Executive Board Members

The Executive Board of the LBBA is voted in by the general membership each spring. Offices start on June 1st and continue through the following May 31st. See the Key Leadership & Contact section below for member contact information.

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors consists of the Executive Board and the Standing Committee Chairs. This body meets each month to discuss planning & logistics of upcoming events, research and organize fundraising activities, and generally discuss how best to support the band. Each committee and executive board position has one vote when changes need approval. See the Key Leadership & Contact section below for member contact information.

By-Laws

For a copy of the current by-laws, either ask a president or download them from our website at lassiterbands.org.
KEY LEADERSHIP & CONTACT INFORMATION

Full committee list and filled vacancies will be in the Fall Band Directory.

DIRECTORS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>James E. Thompson, Jr.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:directors@lbba.org">directors@lbba.org</a></td>
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</table>
| Director of Bands 
| Jeff Harper                |                 |
| Associate Director of Bands|
| Kimberly Snyder            |                 |
| Assistant Director of Bands|

ACTIVITY SUPPORT

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chaperones</td>
<td>Angie Pittman</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chaperones@lbba.org">chaperones@lbba.org</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sandy Caldwell</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tricia Reilly</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Shawn Lambousis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Middle School/Welcome Chair</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:welcome@lbba.org">welcome@lbba.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Color Guard</td>
<td>Meredith Paulin</td>
<td><a href="mailto:guard@lbba.org">guard@lbba.org</a></td>
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<td>Hospitality</td>
<td>Emilie Barry</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hospitality@lbba.org">hospitality@lbba.org</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Teresa Hils</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equipment “Roadies”</td>
<td>Matt Lamb</td>
<td><a href="mailto:equipment@lbba.org">equipment@lbba.org</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ed Howard</td>
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<td>Uniforms</td>
<td>Shelia O’Connell</td>
<td><a href="mailto:uniforms@lbba.org">uniforms@lbba.org</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Cherie Young</td>
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WAYS & MEANS / FUNDRAISERS

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<tr>
<td>Ways &amp; Means/Fundraising Chair</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:ways-means@lbba.org">ways-means@lbba.org</a></td>
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<td>Christmas Tree Lot</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:treelot@lbba.org">treelot@lbba.org</a></td>
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<td>Corporate Sponsorships/Sponsor Board</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:corporate@lbba.org">corporate@lbba.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Craft Fair</td>
<td>Blair Leone</td>
<td><a href="mailto:craftfair@lbba.org">craftfair@lbba.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraiser Cards &amp; Restaurant Nights</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:discountcards@lbba.org">discountcards@lbba.org</a></td>
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<td>Recycling</td>
<td>Denise Hazlett</td>
<td><a href="mailto:recycling@lbba.org">recycling@lbba.org</a></td>
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<td>Senior Bricks &amp; Driveway Trojan Heads</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:drivewaytrojans@lbba.org">drivewaytrojans@lbba.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Spiritwear</td>
<td>Rebecca Fabian</td>
<td><a href="mailto:spiritwear@lbba.org">spiritwear@lbba.org</a></td>
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DIGITAL MEDIA

digitalmedia@lbba.org

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<tr>
<td>Photography</td>
<td>Meredith Paulin</td>
<td><a href="mailto:photography@lbba.org">photography@lbba.org</a></td>
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<td>Videography</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:digitalmedia@lbba.org">digitalmedia@lbba.org</a></td>
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<td>Social Media</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:digitalmedia@lbba.org">digitalmedia@lbba.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Webmaster</td>
<td>Craig Caldwell</td>
<td><a href="mailto:webmaster@lbba.org">webmaster@lbba.org</a></td>
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</table>
**PARTICIPATION MATTERS**

**Volunesia** (noun)

That moment when you forget you’re volunteering to help change lives, because it’s changing yours.

The reason the Lassiter Marching Band is nationally recognized is because of the contribution of not only the talented and dedicated parent LBBA members, but also grandparents, aunts, uncles, brothers and sisters ... even alumni and former parents from years-gone-by, who often come back and volunteer just to reminisce.

As you can imagine, this complex and busy band of students requires a **volunteer army** to do what it does.

- Food Service
- Chaperoning
- Equipment movement
- Fundraising
- Accounting
- Uniform
- Photography
- Sewing
- Set Up
- Take Down
- Cleaning
- And on and on and on

Although not mandatory, the LBBA counts on every family participating when, where, and how they can. Everyone brings a unique set of experiences, talents, and resources and there are a wide range of opportunities to contribute.

And know this: as an LBBA volunteer, you will enjoy a unique opportunity to share in your student’s pride and accomplishments not found in many other school activities. Regardless of the time you can give, your involvement promises to be positive, productive, fun, and of benefit to an outstanding group of young adults.

Unsure what you would like to do? Start by looking over the committee descriptions below and see what works for you. You can mix and match, or even suggest new ways to make the organization better. Let a Board member know and they’ll get you started.

And hopefully you’ll come down with an incurable case of **Volunesia**.

There’s no cure, by the way . . . not that you’d ever want one.
LBBA Activity Support

The two main responsibilities of the LBBA are Activity Support & Fundraising. What follows is a list of activity support and fundraising committees. These are wholly run by parents... just like you! Read each description and see what interests you. You won’t be held to any one area. If you try it and it doesn’t fit, then try another way to participate.

The chairs of each committee will help you get started and walk you through what’s involved. Everyone starts off not knowing how things work.

**Chaperones**
chaperones@lbba.org

The Chaperone Committee requires the largest number of parent volunteers. Responsible for the safety and wellbeing of the students, they are present at all band events outside of school hours requiring adult supervision including practices, away games, contests, away performances, etc. Chaperones ensure that everyone is accounted for when traveling, that water is available when needed, and that first-aid is administered if necessary.

![Chaperones](image1.png)

Since this is such a time-consuming activity, having a large chaperone pool ensures that a small group doesn’t have to attend every event or shift. Shifts can be 3-5 hours at a practice, traveling with the band for a full evening to a football game, or for several days at an away contest.

It’s important to have both men and women chaperones, especially at overnight events. A short training orientation is offered to those interested in being a chaperone. Completion of this training is required prior to performing any chaperone duties. Please consider joining this group, especially if you have First Aid and/or CPR certifications.

**Equipment**
equipment@lbba.org

The Equipment Crew (aka the “Roadies”) ensures that all band equipment is at the right place at the right time. In addition to moving equipment, the Roadies build props and repair equipment used by the band. This industrious group always has a project going that can use an extra hand.

Roadies will load and unload instruments off the tractor trailer and any follow vehicles, move the drum majors’ podiums, electrical equipment, and props to and from performance fields, and maintain motorized equipment. They are also known to have a cook-out on the evenings before home games!

The number of Roadies in this group is large so that everyone doesn’t have to attend every event or shift. And ladies, don’t think this is a men-only group. Women are more than welcome as well.

**Hospitality**
hospitality@lbba.org

Provides meals and refreshments during the band’s activities and events. This may include meals during band camp and full-day practices, food and beverages for a reception, and planning the year-end Awards Banquet.

The number of volunteers is moderate so that everyone doesn’t have to attend every event or shift. Volunteer shifts can be as little as two hours to help serve a meal or refreshments. This group does not travel with the band.

**Middle School/Welcome**
welcome@lbba.org

Communicates and promotes upcoming rising freshman invitational events, registration information, Band Camp dates, etc. to Lassiter feeder middle schools.
Uniforms  uniforms@lbba.org

The Uniform Committee has the responsibility of ensuring each band member has the correct uniform and sees to their general maintenance throughout the season. This committee facilitates the cleaning of the uniforms and the ordering of uniform parts and accessories. During the marching season, the Uniform Committee is on hand for last-minute emergencies. This group ensures that, when in uniform, the Lassiter Trojan Band mirrors the excellence that the band displays as they play and march.

This committee has many members to process students at a few key times during the year: uniform fitting, cleaning, etc. The responsibilities are not difficult, but the more assistance there is, the quicker certain activities can be performed.

Color Guard / Winter Guard  guard@lbba.org

The Guard Liaison serves as a link between the Guard Director and LBBA. They assist directors in seeing that the activity needs of the Guard are met. This includes helping with uniforms, flags, and prop development.

Alumni  alumni@lbba.org

The Alumni Committee works as a liaison between present band activities and past students and boosters. They coordinate and maintain communication with alumni and organize alumni support when necessary. Many alumni like to return and volunteer or donate to the band, which is hugely valuable and serves to strengthen the entire organization.

Digital Media  digitalmedia@lbba.org

This committee is charged with anything related to digital media.

Videoography and Photography: these people are responsible for creating and maintaining a visual history of the band. This includes photography for our on-line photo process account, Smug Mug, video for both the directors’ use and for our YouTube channel, LHS Band and audio to record performances for directors and families to listen to as they please.

Webmaster: Maintains and updates our internet presence at www.lassiterbands.org. Relevant information, links, forms and pictures are upload as well as overseeing any payments for trips, Spiritwear, etc. They may also enhance the website with new applications as technology/programming becomes available.

Social Media: Administrative roles for Facebook and any future social media sites.

Volunteer Committee  volunteer@lbba.org

This standing committee, formed in 2018, was established to assist the other committee with volunteer support. They will maintain the Volunteer Sign-Up list, create on-line volunteer registration, and inform volunteers when and where to get volunteer information.

Although not specifically charged with looking for new volunteers, they may assist the various committees with that effort using the volunteer database.
**FUNDRAISING**

Fundraising is at the heart of the LBBA. To perform and travel at the level that the band does incurs significant expenses. This cannot be supported only by families of band students. Fundraisers are organized to lower student fees and meet the significant operational costs. The students’ participation in fundraisers is limited, but not excluded.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ways &amp; Means</th>
<th><a href="mailto:ways-means@lbba.org">ways-means@lbba.org</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>This committee oversees current fundraising events (those mentioned below) as well as looking for new ways to raise funds, all with the end goal of meeting the annual budget. We really like to describe them as Fundraising Advisory.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What follows are the subcommittees specific activities. Your assistance in the following fundraisers is crucial for the various activities throughout the year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Christmas Tree Sale (Nov-Dec)</th>
<th><a href="mailto:treelot@lbba.org">treelot@lbba.org</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>The annual Christmas Tree sale runs for about 3 weeks in the Highland Plaza parking lot in front of the Office Depot. The profits represent a large portion of our revenue each year. Setting up of the tree lot begins after Thanksgiving. Volunteers (adults &amp; students) work afternoon/evening shifts during the week and 2-3 hour shifts on the weekend. It’s also a great way to socialize and meet other members of the LBBA and community.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Craft Fair (Nov)</th>
<th><a href="mailto:craftfair@lbba.org">craftfair@lbba.org</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>This Saturday-Sunday event each fall is sponsored by the LBBA and is a first-rate craft sale in the school’s gym and cafeteria. Over 150 vendors sell high-quality, home-made crafts. Gifted artists from all over the Southeast flock to Lassiter with their wares and have taken every slot offered. Volunteers are needed set up, take down, and assist vendors. We further raise funds at the Craft Fair with a bake sale and concessions sales.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mattress Sales</th>
<th><a href="mailto:mattress@lbba.org">mattress@lbba.org</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Beginning in 2018, the band partnered with a group that sets up name brand mattresses in the band room. The sale is simple for our families. We only have to prep and clean the band room and advertise the sale with fliers, word of mouth, yard signs and on social media. The company that comes in does all of the setup, sale work and delivery. This sale does well and goes a long way in covering the band’s expenses.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discount Cards</th>
<th><a href="mailto:discountcards@lbba.org">discountcards@lbba.org</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>You will receive a set of cards as part of your band fees. You can either sell them to recoup your money or use them as gifts and take a tax deduction.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Discount Cards provide discounts at area merchants for the period of one year from August to the following July. The cost of the card for the customer is recouped after three or four uses. It makes a great gift for friends, family, co-workers, neighbors, and the teenager on a budget.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Discount cards are also sold in front of various stores during the fall. Students who work the sale receive half of the profits credited toward their student account.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Corporate Fundraising** | corporate@lbba.org |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Each year this committee solicits funds for continuing music education from corporate America. This program gives companies the opportunity to have a direct impact on the positive development of today’s young adults.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Community Recycling recycling@lbba.org
Each fall and spring, we offer a community recycling day for our neighbors to recycle or dispose of unwanted appliances, computers, yard equipment, etc. They can also dispose of paint and there is often a professional document shredding service. Donations are requested for each car load with additional donations for the paint. For an additional donation, we have volunteers with pick-up trucks or trailers to retrieve large objects from a person’s home.

Spiritwear spiritwear@lbba.org
As parents and friends of a world-class band, we can't help being proud. Spiritwear items such as T-shirts, sweatshirts, jackets, hats, pins, magnets, scarves, etc. are a great way to show our spirit and support for what our students are doing. Volunteers are needed to sell Spiritwear at band functions, football games, and various school activities.

Football Tickets
Another simple fundraiser is selling tickets to football games. We set up a table near the band room on game night and spectators purchase just before they enter. This is an easy way to get involved with fundraising.

Jeep Raffle jepraffle@lbba.org
Beginning in 2018, the LBBA partnered with Ed Voyles to raffle a Jeep Wrangler Sport. The band (along with other schools) receive 5,000 tickets to be sold at $10 apiece. Tickets are sold by the families to the people they know and at events such as performances, football games, etc. We anticipate this to be a very big fundraiser for the band as we've partnered with them for at least 3 years.

Students having fun in the stands, 2017
**Uniform Policy**

**Marching Uniform Information**

Your band registration fee includes rental of a portion of the uniform. The rest is purchased and owned by the student.

*It is imperative that each member treat the uniform with the utmost respect and care at all times.* Procedures for doing so are below. Read carefully, as proper care of the uniform will determine its condition for future years.

Rental Uniform consists of:

- **Jacket**
- **Gauntlets** (forearm covers)
- **Bib Pants** (aka Bibbers. Black with front zipper and adjustable shoulder straps)
- **Shako** (this is the “hat”)

**Rental Uniform Cleaning**

*Note: The uniform is to be cleaned by the Uniform Committee only.*

Collection dates will be announced and all uniforms will be cleaned collectively to ensure proper care. It is each student’s responsibility to turn in his uniform on the specified date. Uniforms should be on a supportive hanger labeled with the student’s names when turned in for cleaning.

Each Marching student will also purchase (a one-time purchase or as needed if lost or damaged)

- **Purchased through the Uniform Committee** (sold to active band members only)
  - Garment
  - Marching
  - Banner Uniform T-Shirt
  - Black Gloves (except percussion)
  - Band Sweatshirt

- **Purchased by the student**
  - Black socks
  - Hanger (heavy-duty)
  - Sousaphone Players: Beret

**Garment Bags**

Always use the official garment bag with the Lassiter Band logo to transport the uniform. Damp uniforms should not be stored in closed bag. Students may keep the garment bag after their band career. Proper care will ensure this is a one-time purchase.

**Hanger**

The Garment bag with uniform and shoes can become heavy. Purchase a heavy-duty hanger with a cross brace for the bibbers to be folded over on. **Label the hanger with your student’s name.**
Lassiter Marching Trojan Band

UNIFORMS: are assigned at the beginning of marching season. Uniforms are the property of LBBA and are on loan.

CLEANING: Students and parents are not to clean the loaned uniform pieces. The Uniform Committee will collect uniforms for cleaning several times during the season. Exact dates and instructions for turning in uniforms will be communicated to all band members. If uniforms are to be collected after a football game, students need to come prepared with a change of clothes.

ACCESSORIES: are ordered at the beginning of the season and are the property of the individual student.

JACKET

Sleeve length is adjusted by snaps located inside the sleeve. The jacket must be hung on a hanger when not in use.

“BANNER” T-Shirt

This shirt is worn under the jacket. Students can report to band events with their jacket in the garment bag unless instructed otherwise. Wash this item often.

SHAKO (Marching Helmet)

The shako should be kept in its box, flat side down, when not being worn, or during transportation. Be sure the shako is dry before closing in box.

When removing the Shako from the head, always lift with both hands on the sides above the ears in order to prevent damage to the brim. Never hold shako by the brim.

The string in the top of the shako can be used to adjust the position of the shako on the head.

The brim should rest the width of two fingers above the bridge of the nose.

The chinstrap should be worn snugly under the chin. There must be no hair hanging from under the shako -boys or girls.

The inside of the shako can be wiped out with cleaning wipe on a weekly basis. The brim can be polished with a soft cloth.

When storing the Shako after use, leave the box open for 24 hours. Insert a dryer sheet in the shako before closing the box.

GAUNTLETS

Store gauntlets in a clean, dry environment when not in use: zippered pocket of garment bag or with Shako after airing out.

BIBS

Bibbers are worn with the zipper in the front and so that leg creases hang without a break -no piling on top of shoe. Straps should be adjusted for comfort before pants are hemmed. ABSOLUTELY NO CUTTING OF FABRIC. Do not use safety pins, staples, fusible webbing, hemming tape, or duct tape for hems. Parents may do the hemming or have them hemmed professionally. See Hemming Guidelines Handout for further information.

GLOVES (Accessory):

It’s wise to purchase at least two pairs -they are easily lost. Some students cut off the fingertips. Do so with pinking shears to deter fraying.

Gloves should be washed after each wearing.

SHOES

Keep shoes clean and polished. When shoe size becomes uncomfortable, contact the uniform committee for a new pair or order at band camp the following year.

BAND SWEATSHIRT

On chilly days, this is the official band uniform when the jacket is not in use.

JEWELRY & MAKE-UP

No jewelry or make-up is to be worn while in uniform. No earrings, watches, rings, necklaces, etc. All colored nail polish must be removed.
Lassiter Marching Trojan Band

BIBBER HEMMING GUIDELINES

**NOTE: ABSOLUTELY NO CUTTING OF FABRIC!**

- **Straps:** Straps at the shoulders of the bibber should be adjusted for comfort prior to hemming.
- **Hem Length:** Bibbers should be worn so that the pant leg hem length falls to the top of the marching shoe so that there is NO BREAK. See images.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Falls to the Top of the Shoe</th>
<th>Or Another Way</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Image of Falls to the Top of the Shoe" /></td>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Image of Or Another Way" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Proper Hemming:** Bibbers MUST be properly hemmed.
  - Do NOT use a sewing machine to create a hem.
  - Do NOT use safety pins, fusible webbing, hemming tape, or duct tape for hems.
  - Do not use the snaps in place of a proper hem.
  - Hem should be SEWN using black thread.
  - Wear marching shoes to determine proper length.
  - You may use a professional alteration store.

- **Ironing:** When ironing the hem crease, use low heat (no steam) and place a cloth between the bibber and the iron.

- **Alterations**
  - DO NOT ALTER any other part of the bibber.
  - DO NOT take in or let out the side seams of the bibber.
**CONCERT SEASON UNIFORM INFORMATION**

**Marching Band Students:** Concert season uniforms are a part of the Marching Band registration fee.

**Concert-Only Students:** The concert season fee includes the uniform, Symphonic Camp and other expenditures during the season.

**Hemming:** Absolutely no cutting of fabric is allowed!

All concert uniforms may be hemmed by hand or using a machine basting stitch. Alterations may be done to dress hems, and tuxedo pants. Black thread only. Do not use safety pins, fusible hemming tape, or duct tape. See following pages, too.

**Rental Uniform consists of:**

- **Males:** Tuxedo: Jacket & Pants
- **Females:** Dress: Long black dress with velvet bodice

**Note:** The uniform is to be cleaned by the Uniform Committee only. **

In addition, each student will own ...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purchased through the Uniform Committee</th>
<th>Purchased by the student</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Males</strong></td>
<td><strong>Males</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- White Tuxedo Shirt with Lay Down Collar</td>
<td>- Black Socks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Bow Tie</td>
<td>- Black Shoes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Cummerbund</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Cuff Links with Studs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Females</strong></td>
<td><strong>Females</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Pearl Necklace and Earrings</td>
<td>- Black Stockings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Black Dress Shoes: Closed toe, no boots.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Proper care of items purchased from the Uniform Committee will ensure they last all 4 years.

**COLOR GUARD & WINTER GUARD UNIFORMS**

Color Guard and Winter Guard uniforms change yearly, and the design is determined by the Directors and Instructors. It is the student’s responsibility to purchase their own Wind and/or Winter Guard uniform and it will remain theirs to keep. This does not include flags or other guard equipment.

**ADDITIONAL UNIFORM RULES FOR MARCHING AND CONCERT UNIFORMS**

**Lost Items:** Any lost accessory without a name attached, becomes the property of the Uniform committee. The student will need to purchase a replacement item.

**Loaned Items:** A limited number of uniform items are available for loan from the Uniform Closet prior to scheduled activities and are intended for emergency use only. Borrowed items must be returned at the end of each activity or a replacement fee will be charged to the student’s account. The Uniform Committee will launder borrowed items.

All uniforms must be returned at the end of the marching season and/or concert season respectively.

**Section 13.13 from the LHS Student Handbook**

“Textbooks, band uniforms, athletic equipment, PE locks, and any school equipment issued to students are the property of Lassiter High School, Cobb County Board of Education, and/or the State of Georgia. Damaged, lost, or stolen materials will be charged to the student.”
Lassiter Concert Season

Tuxedo Hemming Guidelines

**Note: Absolutely No Cutting Of Fabric!**

**Females: Concert Dresses**

- Determine the length of the dress by having the student **wear her preferred black shoes** before pinning the hem.
- Dresses MUST be properly hemmed. Hem should be SEWN using black thread. **DO NOT** use a sewing machine to create a hem.
- **DO NOT** use safety pins, fusible webbing, hemming tape, or duct tape for hems.
- When ironing the hem crease, use low heat (no steam) and place a cloth between the dress and the iron.
- **DO NOT ALTER** any other part of the dress.
- **DO NOT** take in or let out the side seams of the dress.

**Males: Concert Tuxedo Pants**

- Tuxedo pants should be hemmed with a classic break (see illustration). Determine the length of the pants by having the student **wear his preferred black dress shoes** before pinning the hem.
- Pants MUST be properly hemmed. Hem should be SEWN using black thread. **DO NOT** use a sewing machine to create a hem.
- **DO NOT** use safety pins, fusible webbing, hemming tape, or duct tape for hems.
- When ironing the hem crease, use low heat (no steam) and place a cloth between the pant and the iron.
Lassiter Music Institute (LMI)

Private Music Lessons   Email questions/requests to lmi@lbba.org

Organized by the Lassiter Band Booster Association as a fundraiser, the Lassiter Music Institute (LMI) is set up to provide private instruction for students of Lassiter High School and those middle school students zoned to attend Lassiter. All lessons are held on campus, Monday through Thursday, from 3:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Friday from 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. based on availability of the instructors. The institute is designed to make quality instruction convenient and accessible in a comfortable learning environment.

Message to Students

The Lassiter Band has built a tradition of excellence in both the concert and marching band aspects over the years. One area that has helped build strong Lassiter Bands over the years has been private instruction. Private study on an instrument is the fastest way to attain individual improvement. It is only through private study that a professional will hear the student play on a weekly basis. Students focus on fundamental skills that are particular to their instrument. These are aspects of development that cannot be offered in a full band setting.

By developing a command of the instrument, the student’s enjoyment increases and his or her desire to learn fuels future success. Instructors provide individualized assignments and feedback specific to the student’s particular strengths and weaknesses. Private study develops a life-long love of music, places demands on individual discipline, and enhances self-esteem. Much attention can be given to preparing for auditions for District Honor Band, All-State, college admissions, and scholarships.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lessons Per Month</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$32.00 per 30-min lesson</td>
<td>$ 32.00</td>
<td>$ 64.00</td>
<td>$ 96.00</td>
<td>$ 128.00</td>
<td>$ 160.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$42.00 per 45-min lesson</td>
<td>$ 47.00</td>
<td>$ 94.00</td>
<td>$ 141.00</td>
<td>$ 188.00</td>
<td>$ 235.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$52.00 per 60-min lesson</td>
<td>$ 62.00</td>
<td>$ 124.00</td>
<td>$ 186.00</td>
<td>$ 248.00</td>
<td>$ 310.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Payments are made one month in advance.
- Make checks payable to the LBBA (Lassiter Band Booster Association).
- In the memo section of the check, indicate: LMI, student name, instructor name, and dates of lessons being paid.
- Pre-pay each month at first lesson. Hand payment directly to instructor. **DO NOT put them in the LMI dropbox.**

**PROGRAM GUIDELINES**

In order to participate in the program, students must be a member in good standing of the Lassiter Band or be a middle school student zoned to attend Lassiter. All lessons will follow the Cobb County School District student/teacher holiday schedule. Visit www.cobbk12.org for the school calendar of days off. Lessons will be suspended on any school breaks that are a week or longer.

**ABSENCE FROM LESSONS:**

Once assigned a lesson time, students are expected to attend. *No show/No call* is an unexcused absence for lessons. Unexcused lessons will only be made up at the teacher’s discretion.

A student that wishes to be excused from their lesson should contact the private lesson teacher at least 24 hrs. in advance. (Contacting a director does not excuse an absence from a lesson). It is important that students obtain their private teachers phone number and email so contact can be made easily. Students/Parents are responsible for making contact with their teacher in order to be granted an excused absence.

Notice of school events should be given to your private lessons teacher. Your private teachers are not employees of CCSD and are unaware of “special event” day/trips. Emergency situations on the day of the lesson will be the only excuse for failing to give the required 24 hr notice. However, the teacher still must be notified. Failure to do so will result in your account being charged for the lesson.

**MAKE-UP LESSONS**

Students needing to cancel a lesson must notify the instructor directly at least 24 hours prior to the lesson. Students may reschedule missed lessons provided they notify the instructor at least 24 hours in advance and provide a valid reason for the absence. Students canceling lessons without advanced notice or who miss a lesson without notice will be charged for that lesson. Whether a make-up lesson is to be given, and the day, time, and method of providing the make-up (5th week, group class, etc.) will be left entirely to the discretion of the instructor. Instructors reserve the right to refuse make-ups to students with excessive absences.

**ENROLLMENT**

Students may sign up for lessons at any time but are encouraged to do so early as slots will fill quickly. Students should review all program guidelines with their parents and complete a Student Information Sheet (LMI table at Band Camp Registration). Interested students will be contacted by each instructor or by an LBBA representative to schedule a lesson time.

**COMMITMENT**

Students and parents are asked to commit to the private lesson program for the entire school year. If you find it necessary to terminate lessons, we ask that this be done in writing at the semester break.

Students will be expected to perform in either the winter recital, spring recital or both. If the student chooses a piece that requires a piano accompanist, the fee to hire him or her will be assessed the student. Confirm the cost with the director overseeing the LMI program.

**LESSON DISCONTINUANCE**

Students, parents, and instructors should be aware that private study takes patience and effort over a period of time before results are apparent. Students, however, may wish to discontinue lessons, and may do so at any time provided they give both the instructor and LBBA written notice of intent to discontinue at least two weeks before stopping and pay all fees through that two-week period. Failure to provide a two-week notice to the instructor will result in a $30.00 discontinuance fee.
Marching Band Student Policies

Band Rules

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not Permitted</th>
<th>Permitted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. <strong>Chewing gum</strong> is not permitted during a rehearsal.</td>
<td>1. <strong>Shoes and socks</strong> must be worn at all rehearsals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. <strong>No food or drink</strong> is allowed on any carpeted areas of the band room.</td>
<td>2. Respecting one’s uniform at all times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. <strong>No hats or sunglasses</strong> may be worn inside of the building.</td>
<td>3. Be in your set, warmed up, and ready to begin on time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. There will be <strong>NO HAZING</strong> of Rookies allowed.</td>
<td>4. Respecting other people’s property.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. <strong>Insubordination</strong> will not be tolerated.</td>
<td>5. Supporting, encouraging, and uplifting each other with Trojan Spirit so that each goal is accomplished with excellence and pride.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Band members will not wear jewelry (including pierced earrings), <strong>fingernail polish, or excessive makeup</strong> while in uniform.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Attendance Policy

**REASONS:** Conscientious rehearsal attendance is vital to the well-being of our program. As we put drill on the field and develop our competitive field show, it is essential that all band members are present for the entirety of all rehearsals. We work together towards the final line up of our competitive show.

**ALTERNATE POSITIONS:** Regular attendance at rehearsals as well as a solid ability to play the show music and march drill will ensure a position in the final line-up. Additionally, as we clean sets, all positions are needed to be present in order to clean forms and intervals properly.

The following is the Lassiter Band attendance policy.

1. Rehearsal attendance is **mandatory**.
2. **Excused Absences:** illness (absence from school), death in the family, religious events (weddings, funerals, bar mitzvahs, confirmations) and major anniversaries are considered excused.
   a) **Planned Absences:** Students must fill out an **ABSENCE FORM** (available in the band room) a minimum of 5 days prior to the absence and turn it in to the band office.
   b) **Private Music Lesson and LMI:** students may be excused from a portion of rehearsal to attend private music lessons.
3. **Unexcused Absences:** A rehearsal missed due to work, other outside activities, or an absence not announced before the event will be considered unexcused.
4. **Friday Night Game Performances**
   a) **Thursday Night Rehearsal:** students who miss a Thursday night rehearsal for any reason, excused or unexcused, may not perform the halftime show at the Friday night game. They are, however, expected to attend the game and perform in the stands.
   b) A student who misses any **two rehearsals in a given week**, for any reason, will not perform at the Friday night game.
5. **Alternate Status:** one unexcused absence or two consecutive excused absences may be grounds for removal from the marching band line-up and designation as alternate status.

Any questions regarding an absence should be directed to a band director by sending an email to directors@lbba.org.
# Football Game Procedures

## Home Games

1. Home games are played in Frank Fillman Stadium, also known as The Frank.
2. Games begin at 7:30 pm. Band assembly (Call Time) is **6:00 pm for home games**, **5:00 pm for away games**.
3. Students should arrive in full uniform. Gloves, gauntlets, and shackles may be carried in hand.
4. Instrument cases and ponchos will not be needed except for in rainy conditions.
5. Plumes will be issued either in the band room or in the stadium and taken up before you leave the stadium.
6. After dismissal, you may remove jackets. The Banner Uniform T-shirt and Bibbers allow us to look uniform after the show is over
7. Students on weekly detail are to report to the band room 30 minutes before call time and immediately after the game to assist in the handling of equipment.
8. Percussionists, color guard, sousaphone, and marching baritones and mellophone players are expected to report to the band room at **5:30 pm for instrument cleaning**.
9. All band equipment should be sparkling and “ready to go” at assembly. Remember that marching band is an outside activity and instruments should be cleaned regularly.
10. All members are expected to attend every engagement in which the band participates. If you are unable to attend a performance, fill out an Absentee Form and present it to the directors no less than 5 days before.
11. No band member is permitted to leave the organization in advance of the group dismissal at any time, **unless excused by the directors prior to the performance**.
12. Regulations regarding rehearsals are also in effect during all public performances.
13. While seated in the stands, only band members are allowed in the ranks. Graduates of the band, however, are welcome back for visits from time to time.
14. While seated in the stands, the band will always sit in sections.
15. Attention should be given to the Band Directors or Drum Majors when they are standing in front of the band.
16. While in the stands, we play only as a group(s). Solo performance is strictly prohibited. Sections are encouraged to work up brief musical selections to aid in the support spirit. These “cheers” must be approved by the Band Staff prior to the start of the game.
17. No inappropriate cheers. Organized, well-planned cheers will certainly enhance “Trojan Spirit” and are encouraged.
18. Musicians should avoid jumping up as the team scores a touchdown. Instruments may become damaged on the concrete.
19. In order to move from place to place in an organized manner, we must be able to give instructions to the group in rapid fashion. Everyone will listen to the Band Staff when instructions are being given.

## Away Games, Overnight Trips & Band Traveling Rules

1. All students are expected to participate in all activities.
2. **ABSOlutely no hazIng or initiatiOn of RooKieS in anY FORm wiLL be toleratEd.** New students will not run errands, for example, for older band members.
3. Drinking alcoholic beverages and taking non-prescription drugs will not be tolerated and cause immediate dismissal.
4. Smoking, chewing, and dipping tobacco will not be tolerated on band trips.
5. Shirts and shoes are to be worn at all times.
6. All school rules (including smoking) will be strictly enforced. Any infraction of these rules will be dealt with by both the Music Department and the school authorities.
7. While staying in a hotel, band members will not be permitted in any other rooms after hours. No unauthorized persons will be permitted to visit.
8. Students are expected to behave at all times in the hotel. You are representing Lassiter High School and Marietta, GA. Anyone deemed guilty of gross misbehavior will be dealt with by the directors.
9. Parents and students will be held responsible for paying any property damage and lost room keys.
10. Rooms are to have doors closed and locked at all times.
11. There will be NO breaking in line in the eating facility.
12. Courtesy is expected in the dining hall as these facilities are used by other groups. As Lassiter Students, common courtesy is **always** expected.
13. Swimsuits are only to be worn at appropriate times, such as going to the pool, when allowed. There are to be no wearing of hats, hair rollers, or sunglasses in the building.
14. No food, glasses, or dishes are to be taken from the dining facility.
15. Refrain from playing instruments in the room.
16. All students should realize that for the duration of the trip, any personal desires, uniqueness of character, or other individualities must be considered secondary to the traits that facilitate large group control and management.
17. Under no circumstances will you be permitted to leave the hotel, except when with the entire group. Students found leaving the premises without permission from the directors will be dealt with severely.
18. Profanity is not a part of the Trojan Band Program. Make sure that your language is never offensive while in the band.

**REMEMBER:** Young adults do not roughhouse or damage property. As LHS Band members, you reflect not only the values you learn at LHS, but those of your community as well. Band members are expected to be at the right place, at the right time, with the right equipment—ready to go!!

Band Directors reserve the right to dismiss and send home any student who disobeys the rules and whose general conduct and attitude towards the trip and its participants is determined to be detrimental to the rest of the group.
Glossary of Terms

**MARCHING SEASON TERMS**

**BAND CAMP**
Band Camp is held each year during the summer on Lassiter’s campus. It usually consists of a Pre-Camp, or Kick-Off Camp.

**Pre/Kick-Off Camp** The students begin physical conditioning and learn fundamentals of marching in preparation for Band Camp.

**Band Camp** Students concentrate on the new marching program and music for the half-time show and marching competitions.

Band Camp is conducted by a sizable staff consisting of the Band Directors, assistants, instructors for each instrument, and alumni students selected by the Directors. The students are supervised by chaperones who attend to their needs.

A mandatory meeting during the first few days of pre-camp is provided where students and parents are advised about the marching season and where questions can be answered.

**BANDS OF AMERICA (BOA):** National organization that conducts marching band competitions around the country. The Grand National Championship is held annually in Indianapolis.

**COLOR GUARD:** The students who showcase the band during marching performances by dancing, spinning flags, twirling rifles, etc. Their uniforms change annually and typically reflect the theme of the performance.

**DRILL:** Refers to the placement of the performers on the performance field. Each performer uses 'X' and 'Y' coordinates to find their position on the field (grid).

**DIRECTORS:** The Band Director and the Associate/Assistant Band Directors. He/she has total control of the band program. Note that certain sections also require specialists such as Percussion and Color Guard. These specialists work with the Directors and are under their supervision.

**DRUM MAJOR:** The students in charge of all band members while on the marching field. All Section Leaders and all band members must follow their commands. The Drum Majors are assigned their responsibilities by the Director.

**FULL BAND:** Any activity referring to the "full band" expects participation from all band members.

A Full Band consists of:

**Color Guard**

**Drum Majors**

**Percussion** (Battery & Front Ensemble)

**Winds**

- **Brass** (Euphonium, Mellophone, Trombone, Trumpet, Sousaphone)

- **Woodwinds** (Alto Sax, Baritone Sax, Bass Clarinet, Clarinet, Flute, Piccolo, Tenor Sax)

**GATOR:** All-Terrain Vehicle the band uses to move equipment and supplies around both during rehearsal and at performances.

**MARCHING COMPETITION:** During marching season, the band traditionally attends two or three marching competitions. The band is judged as a whole on their marching, precision, musical ability, general effect, etc. Parents are encouraged to attend even though they may be held in neighboring states or cities.

**MARCHING EXHIBITION:** Similar to a marching competition, but without the judging. Our band performs at the annual Cobb County Marching Exhibition at McEachern High School in October. Occasionally we may be asked to do an exhibition at a marching competition, which would mean we participate for show, not for awards. Parents are encouraged to attend.

**MARCHING SEASON:** The part of the school year lasting through November unless the Director accept an invitation for the band to attend some other function after that time. You would be given ample notice of any extra activities.

**MONSTER:** The tall podium on the front center sideline from which the Drum Majors conduct.

**PERCUSSION:** All students who strike an instrument to play, i.e. non-winds or color guard. Percussion is composed of the battery and front ensemble.

**BATTERY:** Those percussionists that march and wear or carry their instrument, i.e. snare, bass drum, etc.

**FRONT ENSEMBLE:** Also known as “The PK”, those percussionists the play stationary instruments on the front sideline of the field, i.e. marimba, timpani, etc. Students who play a non-marching instrument such as oboe or bassoon may choose to participate in the pit if they do not choose a marching instrument.
ROADIES: Members of the Equipment Committee and crew. Their uniform is the highly visible yellow Roadie shirts.

SECTION: Each instrument group. For example: Clarinet Section, Trumpet Section, Percussion Section, etc.

SECTIONALS: A rehearsal called by the Student Leader of each section. All students in a section are expected to attend all sectionals which may be held before or after school hours.

SECTION LEADER: Appointed by the Band Director and in charge of his/her section of the band. All students must adhere to the orders of the section leaders.

SENIOR BREAKFAST: An event in late Spring where seniors are served breakfast in the Trojan House. Traditionally, a speaker, such as Mr. Alfred Watkins, will speak. Both the STEP scholarship and Chris King Memorial Scholarship are presented to the recipients.

SENIOR NIGHTS: Seniors are offered special fun nights as a reward for their hard work over the years. For example, on one evening during band camp, they stay after practice for a pizza party. Also on special extended trips, seniors will have an extra evening activity just for them.

SET BOOK: A small notepad that is used by each member of the band and Color Guard to record their individual placement in the drill. Band members are required to keep their set book updated and with them at all times during marching rehearsal. Set books are furnished at Band Camp.

S.T.E.P.: Stands for Spirit, Tradition, Excellence, Pride. These are the cornerstones of the Lassiter Band program.

S.T.E.P. FIELD: Paved parking lot where the Tower stands and the band rehearse.

SWAMP: Storage shed behind the band room where equipment is stored.

T-1 / T-REX: Names for the tractor trailers used to move the band equipment to competitions and away games. T-Rex was purchased in 2018 to replace T-1.

TOWER: The three-story structure at the side of the STEP field where the directors can oversee rehearsal.

WINDS: Any instrument that uses air to play: brass and woodwind instruments, i.e. non-percussion and color guard.

**LBBA Terms**

LASSITER BAND BOOSTER ASSOCIATION (LBBA): This is the umbrella organization for all the volunteerism that supports the band program. It consists of an Executive Board (elected), Committee Chairs (appointed) and the general membership (all parents of band students.) Its main objective is “to promote ways and means of providing for the needs of the Lassiter High School Band Program, above those supplied by the Cobb County School System.”

BANQUET: The end-of-year banquet is for the entire family for both Marching & Concert bands. It’s a ticketed event in May that is both dinner and award ceremony. Directors and Leaders honor and award students and volunteers. A review of the year in video, pictures and music is typically shown. The following years’ student leadership is announced.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: The Board of Directors consists of the Executive Board and chairpersons of all Standing Committees. The Executive Board is elected by the General Membership in spring. Chairpersons are appointed by the Presidents according to involvement/interest in the organization.

The BoD discuss upcoming events, vote on certain items and ensure the continued progress and success of the LBBA. If you aspire to be part of this group, GET INVOLVED! Board meetings are held once a month at 7:00 pm, typically in the Band Room.

DROP BOX: The LBBA has a designated box for depositing payments, forms, and other information requested by the organization. It is a black “mailbox” located on a wall of the Band Room just past the directors’ office. It is accessible any time the Band Room is open. If a check is deposited, it should include:

- Student’s name(s) who the money is applied to
- His/her section
- How the check should be credited (camp, trips, etc.)

Cash should never be placed in the drop box.

FUND-RAISING: A term which needs no definition. Since little money comes to our program from the county, we are mostly self-funding. While students are involved in a few fund-raisers each year (the Fall Fundraiser, Christmas tree sales, etc.), most funds are raised via the community and corporations. Parents are expected to help in the various roles to lower the overall costs of the program.

GENERAL LBBA MEMBERSHIP MEETING: These meetings are...
held typically on the 4th Thursday of each month at 7 pm, usually in the Band Room. All families that have a student in the band program are automatically LBBA Members. For the vitality of the band and general knowledge, we encourage at least one parent from each family attend.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD:** Is composed of two Co-Presidents, three Co-Vice Presidents, a secretary and three Co-Treasurers. These positions are nominated by a nominating committee and elected at the April General Membership meeting. See the LBBA By-Laws for further descriptions and responsibilities.

**CONCERT SEASONS TERMS**

**BANDS:** There are 4 levels of bands. Placement is determined by audition.

- **SYMPHONIC BAND I (Sym 1):** Highest skilled concert-season band.
- **SYMPHONIC BAND II (Sym 2):** Second highest skilled.
- **CONCERT BAND I:** Third highest skilled.
- **CONCERT BAND II:** Fourth highest skilled.

**NOTE TO NEW FAMILIES:** Lassiter Concert bands are constructed by skill level of the students and NOT by the instrumentation or perceived number of students needed by each band. Success in our program is directly proportionate to skills and mastery demonstrated by the student. We strongly recommend and encourage students to participate in our LMI program (see the LMI section of this handbook for more information).

**LARGE GROUP PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (LGPE):** This music festival is held during concert season in March. Bands are judged according to their musical abilities (not against each other) and the bands above are judged separately. If your student was in a Cobb County middle school, he/she has probably participated in this festival already. Parents are encouraged to attend.

**LMI STUDENT RECITAL:** A student performance sanctioned by our LMI program and is mandatory for all LMI students. It allows parents and instructors to see the return on their investment. These performances are recorded and can be used to create a performance portfolio—useful when applying to colleges and other scholarship opportunities.

**SOLO & ENSEMBLE:** Usually a Georgia Music Educator’s Association sanctioned event but has been sponsored locally in Cobb County by other booster organizations. Much like the LGPE, solo and ensemble performance evaluation provides assessment for smaller groups and chamber ensembles.

**MANDATORY MEETINGS:** A mandatory meeting is any meeting at which at least one parent’s attendance is required. Expect one or two mandatory meetings a year. These are typically called prior to Band Camp and all trips.

**VOLUNTEER:** You are! No experience necessary. Each committee fully expects you to “not know what you’re doing” and will guide, train, and lead you with the tasks at hand. But we need fresh ideas, too. Speak up if you see a need or a better way of doing something. Volunteers do just about everything: fundraise, sew flags, set-up chairs, cook food, chaperone the students, check out uniforms, act as treasurer, take pictures, develop the webpage, and on and on and on. WE NEED YOU!

The event offers students the opportunity to explore higher levels of accountability and musical achievement. Highly recommended.

**SYMPHONIC BAND CAMP:** All students participating in a concert band are expected to attend Symphonic Band Camp. This weekend event (Friday-Sunday) is held mid-January or February and is the official "start" of the concert season. This is yet another event that sets our band program apart from other schools.

**TRI-M:** A National Music Honor Society organization that recognizes musicians that are skilled in their instrument. Those in Symphonic Band I are invited to join. They have special performances and offer community service.

Students must be of high character and complete community service, performances, and program service each semester of their senior year.

Seniors graduate with a salmon cord.

**WINTER GUARD:** An extension of the Color Guard activity. Students participate in choreographed, indoor performances that take place January-April. Taped music is used for these performances.
CONCERT ETIQUETTE FOR AUDIENCE MEMBERS

The Lassiter High School Bands want to present the best, most professional setting during concerts and there are universally accepted do’s and don’ts of which audience members should be aware when attending a musical performance. These include the following:

- When you enter the auditorium, you have entered a performance area, even if the performance has not begun. Turn cell phone volume off and do NOT answer phone calls.

- When the house lights dim, it’s courteous to quickly finish conversations to avoid distracting from the performance starting on stage.

- If someone other than the conductor walks on stage in front of the ensemble, they are making a formal entrance. You should applaud. However, if it is a member of the ensemble, it’s probably the concertmaster who will indicate to the ensemble members that they should check their final tuning and wait for the conductor to enter.

- Do not applaud during the middle of a selection, even if there is a pause during the performance for different movements of a longer work. The end of the performance is usually marked by the conductor lowering his baton.

  On the other hand, if you’re listening to a JAZZ BAND and someone "takes a solo", DO show your approval of the individual’s solo performance when they finish by applauding!

- Whistling, yelling, etc., are expected at athletic events, but are NOT appropriate in a concert setting. Applause is the appropriate response following a concert performance!

- If you have a small child with you in the audience, GREAT! But, if crying or "squirming" becomes a problem, be courteous to the others and quietly move to the foyer with your child. Wait until there is a break in the performance (between selections or groups) to return.

- Never enter or leave the auditorium when a performance is in progress! (Except for the "upset child" scenario above.) If you arrive late, or need to leave early, wait until the selection is over.

- If you enjoyed the concert, and you really want the performers and/or conductor(s) to know it, go "back–stage" after the final program selection and tell them!

The bottom line: Public performances, by professional groups, public school music programs, or community ensembles are intended for the enjoyment and appreciation of all in attendance. Be considerate of others. Common courtesy is expected and appreciated by all.
Meet Our Directors

JAMES E. THOMPSON, JR.: DIRECTOR OF BANDS

James E. Thompson, Jr. is the Director of Bands at Lassiter High School in Marietta, GA. Mr. Thompson is a native of Savannah, Georgia and son of retired band director, James E. Thompson. He is a 1999 graduate of Florida State University, where he studied applied trombone with Dr. John Drew. His professional affiliations include membership in the Georgia Music Educators Association where he served as chairman of the music selection committee for the 2012-2013 School term, membership in the National Band Association, and Minority Band Directors National Association. James has conducted clinics and honor bands in the Southeastern United States as a conductor and brass pedagogue. He is also a frequent guest of metro Atlanta schools as a guest clinician and conductor.

Mr. Thompson spent one year as Director of Bands at South Forsyth High School in Cumming, GA. In that one year, he increased enrollment by over 50%. His marching band also posted one of the highest scores in school history as class champions in all contests entered, as well as Grand Champion and sweepstakes winner of the 2014 Greater Atlanta Marching Festival. In addition to marching accolades, the Wind Ensemble received invitations to perform at the University of Georgia’s Jan-fest and the University of Alabama at Birmingham Concert Band Invitational.

While at Lassiter, Mr. Thompson has had the opportunity to perform on the regional and national stage with many wonderful ensembles. These performances include being a guest conductor with the Lassiter Chamber Orchestra at the Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic in 2009 and performing as a guest conductor with the Symphonic I band at the Georgia Music Educators Association In-Service in 2010. Mr. Thompson served as principal brass instructor of the award winning Marching Trojan Band in three first place finishes at Bands of America Regionals, (Hofstra 2007, West Chester 2009, Towson 2013) Each of these marching performances garnered best music, best visual, and best overall effect awards. Other performances include the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day parade in 2010, and the Pasadena Tournament of Roses in 2013 and in 2019.

Prior to arriving at Lassiter High School, Mr. Thompson taught for eight years in the Savannah-Chatham County public Schools in Savannah, Georgia at elementary, middle and high school levels. While in Savannah, Mr. Thompson’s bands consistently earned superior ratings at GMEA district band festivals. In addition to teaching, Mr. Thompson was a professional freelance trombonist playing in the Savannah Symphony Orchestra, Hilton Head Symphony Orchestra, Savannah Sinfonietta, and Beaufort Symphony Orchestra. He is a member of the Phi Beta Mu International School Bandmaster Fraternity.

James Thompson resides in Woodstock, GA with his wife, Verlynda N. Slaughter-Thompson, and his two children, James III and Aria Thompson.
JEFF HARPER: ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF BANDS

Mr. Jeff Harper is currently in his second year as Associate Director of Bands at Lassiter High School in Marietta, GA. Prior to his appointment at Lassiter, Mr. Harper served as the Director of Bands at McEachern High School in Powder Springs, GA. While at McEachern, the band program was selected as a feature group for the 2012 University of Georgia High School Music Festival and selected as a feature group at the 2013 Georgia Music Educators Association. Before his appointment at McEachern High School, he was the Associate Director of Bands at Kennesaw Mountain High School from 2000 to 2009 and Director of Bands at the West Cobb School (1998-2000). While teaching at Kennesaw Mountain High School, the band program received acclaim through national and regional performances including the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic, Bands of America, and Winter Guard International.

Mr. Harper received a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Georgia and a Master of Music Education Degree from the University of Illinois. While at UGA, Mr. Harper studied trumpet with Albert Ligotti, Moffit Williams, and Fred Mills. His conducting teachers include Dr. Dwight Satterwhite, Dr. John Culvahouse, and Mr. James Keene. Also, Mr. Harper was Drum Major of the University’s Redcoat Marching Band. Mr. Harper was a member of the Cadets of Bergen County Drum and Bugle Corps from Bergenfield, New Jersey in 1996 and In 1998, was a staff member with the Cadets, who won the Drum Corps International World Championship.

Mr. Harper serves as a guest clinician throughout the country for presenting sessions to marching bands, concert bands and leadership seminars. In 2002, Mr. Harper began judging for both Drum Corps International and Bands of America and continues to judge throughout the United States and abroad. Mr. Harper has recently served as an adjudicator/clinician for Drum Corps Japan (2009/2011) and the Japan Marching Band Association (2010). In 2012, Mr. Harper was inducted in to Phi Beta Mu and became a two-time recipient of the Citation Excellence Award presented by the National Band Association in 2012 and 2013. In addition to judging, Mr. Harper has held annual leadership camps and clinics for students at the University of Georgia and Georgia State University.

Mr. Harper currently resides with his husband, David, and son Jacob in Kennesaw, Georgia.

KIMBERLY SNYDER: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF BANDS

Kimberly Snyder is currently the Assistant Director of Bands at Lassiter High School. Mrs. Snyder is a native of Marietta, Georgia and an alumnus of Lassiter High School. A flute player, she received her Bachelor of Music Education degree from Kennesaw State University. While in college she performed with the Wind Ensemble, Flute Ensemble, and various chamber ensembles. She has also performed with the Atlanta Wind Symphony, Cobb Wind Symphony, the Georgia All-College Band, and the College Band Directors National Association Intercollegiate Band. Additionally, she has performed at Carnegie Hall on two occasions with the National Wind Ensemble. Mrs. Snyder has had the fortunate opportunity to perform and conduct at the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic on four separate occasions; 1996 with the Lassiter Symphonic Band, 2003 and 2011 with the Cobb Wind Symphony and 2007 conducting the Mabry Middle School Band Symphonic Band. Mrs. Snyder worked on the marching band staff of the Lassiter High School Marching Trojan Band from 1999-2009 under the direction of Alfred Watkins.

Before coming to Lassiter Mrs. Snyder was the Associate Director of Bands at Mabry Middle School for seven years and spent three years as Associate Director of Bands at Floyd Middle School in Cobb County. Mrs. Snyder accepted her present position at Lassiter High School in August of 2015. She is a member of the Georgia Music Educators Association and The Music Educators National Conference and is an active clinician in the Cobb County area.

Mrs. Snyder resides in Woodstock with her husband Kevin and daughter Kaydence.
An Historical View of Our Success

The Lassiter High School Trojan Band has accomplished the following:

AWARDS AND HONORS

• Winners of 62 marching band championships in the past twenty-four years
• Two performances for President Ronald Reagan, Omni Arena, Atlanta, Georgia
• Recipient of the Citation of Excellence from the United States House of Representatives, sponsored by Congressman George “Buddy” Darden (D), Georgia
• Performances for the Atlanta Falcons, Atlanta Hawks, and Atlanta Braves professional sports franchises
• Invitations to perform in Austria, France, Germany, Switzerland, Japan, Australia, and China

1980’s

• 1984: Performances on the steps of the Nation’s Capital and the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.
• 1984: Performance at the World’s Fair, New Orleans, Louisiana
• Selected as feature band for the Coca-Cola Centennial Celebration, Atlanta, Georgia (nationally televised)
• Proclaimed “Ambassadors of Good Will” from the State of Georgia, Governor Joe Frank Harris, 1984 and 1987
• Selected for a feature role in the motion picture “The Leader of the Band” starring Steve Landesburg.
• 1986: Performance in the King Orange Jamboree Parade, Miami, Florida, December 31, NBC-TV
• Sixty-Five consecutive Superior Awards with the Concert Band Program, 1983-2010
• 1988: Performance in the 99th Annual Tournament of Roses Parade, Pasadena, California
• 1988: Symphonic Band selected to perform at the National Band Association’s National Conference in Knoxville, Tennessee
• 1989: Recipient of the prestigious Louis Sudler Flag of Honor (for outstanding symphonic bands) sponsored by the John Philip Sousa Foundation
• 1989: Performance at the National Black Music Caucus National Convention in Atlanta, GA

1990’s

• 1990: Bands of America Grand National Marching Competition, 5th place, Hoosier Dome, Indianapolis, Indiana, November 11
• 1991: Performance at the Blockbuster Bowl II in Miami, Florida
• 1992: Bands of America Southern Regional Championship, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, October 31
• 1993: Symphonic Bands I and II selected to perform in the Bands of America National Concert Band Festival, Northwestern University, Illinois, March 26-27
• 1993: Southeastern U.S. Marching Band Championship, Daytona, Florida, November
• 1994: Bands of America Grand National Marching Competition, 3rd place, RCA Dome, Indianapolis, Indiana, November 5
• 1995: Symphonic Bands I and II selected to perform in the 1995 Bands of America National Concert Band Festival, Medinah Temple, Chicago, Illinois, March 30-April 1
• 1995: Bands of America Southeast Regional Championship, 1st place, Johnson City, Tennessee, October 14
• 1995: King Orange Bowl Parade, Miami, Florida, December 31
• 1996: Symphonic Bands I and II selected to perform at the Atlanta International Band and Orchestra Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, April 4
• 1996: Winter Guard International, Scholastic A Class World Champions, Dayton, Ohio, April 11-13,
• 1996: Performance at the 50th Annual Midwest Clinic, An International Band and Orchestra Conference in Chicago, Illinois, December,
• 1997: Bands of America Southeast Regional Championship, 1st place, Best Music, Atlanta, Georgia, October
• 1997: Florida Citrus Bowl Parade, Orlando Florida, December
• 1998: Bands of America Johnson City Regional Championship, 1st place, Best Music, Best Visual, Best General Effect, Johnson City, Tennessee, October
• 1998: Bands of America Southeast Regional Championship, 1st place, Best Music, Best Visual, Best General Effect, Atlanta, Georgia, November
• 1998: Bands of America Grand National Championship, 1st place, Best Visual, Best General Effect, Indianapolis, Indiana, November 12-14
• 1998: Recipient of the prestigious Louis Sudler Shield of Honor (for outstanding marching bands) sponsored by the John Philip Sousa Foundation
• 1999: Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade, New York City, NY, November

2000’s
• 2000: GRAMMY Signature School (for outstanding school music programs)
• 2000: Percussion Ensemble selected by audition to perform at Bands of America National Concert Band Festival
• 2001: 112th Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade, Pasadena, California, January 1
• 2001: Bands of America Morgantown Regional Championship, 1st place, Best Music, Best Visual, Best General Effect, Morgantown, West Virginia, October
• 2002: Symphonic Bands I and II selected to perform in the Bands of America National Concert Band Festival, Murat Theater, Indianapolis, March
• 2002: Winter Guard International, Scholastic Open Finalist, Dayton, Ohio, April
• 2002: Bands of America Atlanta Regional, 1st place, Best Visual, Best General Effect, Atlanta, Georgia, November
• 2002: Bands of America Grand National Championship, 1st place, Best Music, Best General Effect, Indianapolis, Indiana, November 14-16
• 2004: Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade, New York City, NY, November
• 2005: 116th Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade, Pasadena, California, January 1
• 2005: Bands of America St. Petersburg Regional, 1st place, Best Music, Best General Effect, St. Petersburg, Florida, October
• 2006: Bands of America St. Louis Super Regional, 3rd place, St, Louis Missouri, October
• 2007: Bands of America Hofstra Regional, 1st place, Best Music, Best Visual, Best General Effect, Hofstra, New York, October
• 2007: Percussion Ensemble I performance at the Percussive Arts Society International Conference in Columbus, Ohio, November
• 2008: Performers in the Celebration of Hawaii’s 50th Anniversary of Statehood, Honolulu, Hawaii, March
• 2009: Bands of America Westchester Regional, 1st place, Best Music, Best Visual, Westchester, Pennsylvania, October

2010’s
• 2010: Performance at the Georgia Music Educator’s State In-Service Conference, in Savannah, Georgia, January
• 2010: Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade, New York City, NY, November
• 2013: Tournament of Roses Parade, Pasadena, CA, January
• 2013: Bands of America Towson Regional, 1st place, Best Music, Best Visual, Best General Effect, Towson, MD, October
• 2015: Percussion Ensemble selected by audition to perform at Bands of America National Concert Band Festival
• 2015: Symphonic I & II Bands selected by audition to perform at the Bands of America National Concert Band Festival
• 2016: Percussion Ensemble selected to perform at the Georgia Music Educators State In-Service Conference, in Athens, Georgia, January
• 2017: National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade in Washington, D.C.
• 2018: Symphonic I Band selected to perform at the Georgia Music Educators State In-Service Conference, in Athens, Georgia, January
• 2019: Tournament of Roses Parade, Pasadena, CA, January; Symphonic 2 Band performs at Music for All’s Southeastern Regional Concert Festival at GSU, March
**Louis Sudler Flag of Honor**  
Sponsored by the John Philip Sousa Foundation

The Lassiter Symphonic Band Program was honored to receive this most prestigious award for high school concert bands in 1989. The Sudler Flag of Honor, given by the John Philip Sousa Foundation, recognizes high school concert bands with particularly high standards of musical excellence. Bands are nominated based on their superior concert performances over the years as well as consistently high participation in the All-State Bands, various honor bands, and superior solo and ensemble performances. This coveted award brings national recognition to only two to four high school bands annually. Each honored band receives a flag that is to be displayed on stage at each performance by the band.

The John Philip Sousa Foundation selected the Lassiter High School Symphonic Band, of Marietta, Georgia, to join the "Historic Roll of Honor of Distinguished High School Concert Bands in America, 1920-1997." The Lassiter Symphonic Band is only 1 of 3 high school concert bands in the state of Georgia to receive this distinguished honor during this 77-year period. The other Georgia bands were Hardaway High School, Columbus, Georgia, in 1984, and Jordan High School, Columbus, Georgia, 1956.

Selection standards for this prestigious honor are quite stringent. A selection committee comprised of some 24 nationally-recognized college and university band directors meets each December at The Midwest Clinic, An International Band and Orchestra Conference, in Chicago, to select these outstanding bands. The purpose of this project is to research and evaluate high school concert bands from across the country that have attained unusual levels of achievement nationally and which are considered to be of historical importance and influence to the nation's high school concert band programs.

The Lassiter Symphonic Band I is a highly-skilled group of instrumentalists selected from over 200 students in the school's band program. The group is 1 of 4 performing concert bands at Lassiter. The Symphonic Band has earned a reputation for musical excellence. The band has performed on the campuses of the University of Southern Mississippi, University of Georgia, Florida State University, University of South Carolina, and Troy State University. Additionally, the band has performed at the Georgia Music Educators Association In-Service Conference and numerous national and international music conventions. In 1996, the Symphonic Band performed at the prestigious Midwest Clinic, An International Band and Orchestra Conference, in Chicago, Illinois, for a standing-room-only audience of over 2,000 band directors representing the United States and 5 continents.

**Louis Sudler Shield of Honor**  
Sponsored by the John Philip Sousa Foundation

In December of 1998, the Lassiter High School Trojan Band was honored to receive the Sudler Shield for outstanding high school marching band programs. Initiated in 1988, this international honor is awarded to programs demonstrating the highest levels of excellence for their marching band programs. High school marching bands that have repeatedly achieved excellence on a regional or national level may receive nominations for this prestigious award. Once a program has been nominated, it must submit videotaped footage of a recent competitive field show as well as any parade footage in which the band may have participated in the past three years.

Additionally, the application process includes awards and honors achieved by the program and letters of recommendation. Lassiter was one of only three high school bands from across the country to receive the Sudler Shield in 1998. The other recipients were Broken Arrow High School, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, and Lafayette High School, Lexington, Kentucky.

**Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade**

The Lassiter Trojan Band was honored to have been selected three times to march in the 1999, 2004, and 2010 Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parades. Approximately 348 Trojan Band members participated in 1999, having 1.5 minutes of TV airtime. In 2004, 305 band members amassed approximately 10 minutes of airtime as the “Santa Band,” ushering in Santa at the end of the parade. In 2010, the band traveled with 282 students to perform for the third time in the parade.

**2000 GRAMMY Signature School**  
Sponsored by The MARAS School, Inc.

Only 100 schools in the United States are selected for this program. Lassiter was chosen from more than 18,000 public high schools around the country.

This national program recognizes outstanding commitment to music education. The GRAMMY Foundation, a non-profit arm of The Recording Academy, is dedicated to advancing music- and arts-based education across the country and ensuring access to America’s rich cultural legacy. An arc of education and preservation programs and services strive to cultivate understanding, appreciation and advancement of the arts for all ages. Through cultural, professional and educational initiatives, the Foundation aims to strengthen our educational system and our culture at large.

"We are thrilled to give national recognition to these schools for an outstanding job of fostering their arts programs in a difficult cultural funding environment," said Michael Greene, President/CEO of The Recording Academy. “We applaud them for their success in ensuring that music education does not become a cultural casualty in their districts, and for implementing music education programs that make a positive difference in the lives of young adults."
5 Time Participant in the Tournament of Roses Parade

On January 1, 2001, The Lassiter Trojan Band was 1 of 23 bands chosen to participate in the 112th Annual Tournament of Roses Parade themed "Fabric of America." Selected from hundreds of high school bands throughout the United States, Lassiter showcased its award-winning sound and precision on New Year’s Day as it marched 5.5 miles down Pasadena's famed Colorado Boulevard.

"We are proud to represent the State of Georgia as we lead our band to Pasadena to participate in "America’s New Year Celebration," said Alfred Watkins, former Director of Bands. "We have a talented group of individuals who are looking forward to sharing their talent with the world."

Then on January 1, 2005, the Marching Trojan band once again marched in the “Granddaddy of all Parades,” marking its third participation in this event (the first having been in 1988). The theme for the 2005 parade was "Celebrate Family" and saw Mickey Mouse as its Grand Marshal. The 2004-2005 band members had the privilege of participating in both the Macy’s Parade and the Tournament of Roses Parade in one school year (37 days apart) – quite an undertaking, as well as an honor, for every member.

On January 1, 2013, the band returned to Pasadena. The theme for this Parade was “Oh! The Places You’ll Go.

The most recent trip to the Tournament of Roses Parade was on January 1, 2019, where the band performed for the 5th time in its history. The band also entertained the crowds as they marched down Disneyland’s Main Street, U.S.A.

Lassiter High School Winter Guard Captures 1996 World Title

The Lassiter High School Winter Guard captured 1st Place honors in Scholastic A Class at the 1996 Winter Guard International (WGI) World Championships, April 12, 1996, at the Dayton (Ohio) Arena. The Lassiter Winter Guard, a winter version of the Lassiter Trojan Band Color Guard, placed 1st out of 102 winter guards in their class. They received a winning score of 96.00 out of a possible 100.00 points.

Lassiter performed a most complex show combining difficult drill moves while tossing and spinning flags, rifles, and sabers to the astonishment and continuous approval of the audience and an expert panel of ten evaluators. The WGI scoring system is designed to evaluate the movement (marching) skills, equipment handling and overall effectiveness of the visual program.

The Winter Guard is an indoor extension of the Lassiter Trojan Band Color Guard. Winter Guard performances are held on gymnasium floors using colorful floor coverings and towering backgrounds that transform a typical basketball arena into an elegant stage. Internationally, more than 30,000 competitors participate in some 1,900 winter guards. Over 60% of the WGI are located in public and private high schools.

This performance marked Lassiter’s first ever performance in the World Championships. The world title signifies the first world title in Georgia Winter Guard history and the first world title in the history of Lassiter High School. The championship awarded in Scholastic, qualified the Lassiter Guard for performance the following year in Scholastic Open Class.

Lassiter HS Winter Guard Captures International Title in Phoenix, AZ

“The 22-member Winter Guard from Lassiter High School traveled to Phoenix, AZ, this past week where they competed in Winter Guard International Championships and captured the 1997 World Title. Guards from across the globe, including such countries as Canada, England, Australia, and Japan (as well as hundreds from across the United States) participated in intensive competition to take home this coveted award. Over 5,000 young people met at the America West Arena and Veteran's Coliseum for the event.

Lassiter is the first Georgia school to earn the right to compete in Scholastic Open Competition, one of the most advanced levels of competition for international high school championships. They were judged on such categories as individual analysis and general effect.

Sophisticated dance routines are complimented by the use of various enhancements to add to the pageantry of the event. Lassiter performed in competition at the preliminary, semi-final and final levels before capturing the World Title with an overall score of 96.95.”
1. Do I have to be in marching band to be in the school’s band program?
   Simply, no you don’t. The marching program is separate from the school-provided classroom band schedule, a.k.a. Concert Band.

   However, most students (over 95%) choose to participate in both the marching band and concert band programs. Those doing so don’t miss out on the terrific opportunity to learn even more about music and about themselves.

   Students build great friendships through their participation in the marching band, giving them a place to belong. They get to know close to 200 other students in a short amount of time.

2. Can I be in other activities and be in the band?
   Absolutely. In fact, we encourage it. Every year we have several students who are in band and ROTC, STEM, soccer, cross-country, baseball, basketball, track, and even chorus and orchestra.

   We want our students to explore their options in high school if they want to do other things.

   The only conflicting activities with marching band are football and varsity cheerleading.

3. Do I have to take private lessons to be in the band?
   While not required, private lessons are the most effective way of improving playing skills. And the overall sound of the band ... whether on the field or on the stage ... cannot be enhanced unless each student improves individually.

   When a professional works with you one-on-one, they hear you play and give instant feedback for corrections. You receive tips and ways of practicing to continually to get better.

   The Lassiter Band program has its own tutoring program called the Lassiter Music Institute (pg ). Lessons are provided after school for 30, 45 or 60 minutes. Talk to the directors or the Band Boosters to learn more.

4. High school is hard. Will I be able to do band and maintain good grades?
   Yes. There certainly are challenges and higher academic demands in high school. But band students have consistently ranked among the highest achieving students academically for decades! More than 25% of band students are members of the National Honor Society.

   Does the band just draw good students? Or does it make students better?

   What band gives each student is discipline. By working hard and having limited down time, it forces students to schedule time for studies and homework. You might even notice Fall grades are better when the days are tougher. (We have.) And the students themselves support and encourage each other to maintain their academic skills.

   Not only is it possible, it’s more than probable they will maintain good grades.

5. How do the older students treat the freshmen?
   The upperclassmen in the band program are taught, encouraged, and elected to leadership positions BECAUSE they are mentors for freshmen. The “S” for Spirit and “P” for Pride remind them they have experienced what the freshmen will be going through. And they are there to help and to show them the ropes. You will find the older students to be very helpful and encouraging. And hazing is strictly prohibited.

6. What if I don't play that well?
   The Lassiter Band has a place for anyone who commits to being a part of an excellent organization. Classes are based on playing ability. We teach to whatever level you are currently at, and we help you to achieve the next level. That's exactly why we’re here! The success of the program is getting from where you are to where you could be. Class will challenge you and help you improve. There are no seniors that continue to play at an 8th grade level at Lassiter.
So the Lassiter Band is made up of people just like you ... people who enjoy playing an instrument and are willing to work hard at improving each day.

7. How can I be in marching band if I play the oboe or bassoon?
Several instruments are not used on the marching field for various reasons. But don’t worry, there is a place for you. Fingering systems are similar on several instruments. So, oboists often march playing a flute, clarinet or saxophone. Bassoonists usually march tenor or baritone saxophone. French Horns play Mellophone and Tuba players play Sousaphone. You may rent these instruments for the marching season from your local music store or the school.
There is also the possibility of playing in the front ensemble percussion if you have piano experience.

8. I hear that the marching band rehearses all of the time. How much time does marching band actually take?
We do a great deal of band rehearsal in the summer before school starts so that we won’t be as busy once the school year begins. We normally rehearse 2 hours on Wednesday, and 3 hours on both Tuesday and Thursday from August through October. We also have “camp rehearsals” typically one Saturday per month after the school year starts.
During the Fall, we attend football games on Friday evenings. (You were going to go anyway, why not get in for free and do some marching!) Marching season ends in mid-November, and after that you can expect concert band rehearsals 1 ½ - 2 hours per week. After school rehearsals enable us to spend time developing our ensemble skills, which is what makes us have a strong program!

9. If I don't sign up for band now, can I join my sophomore year?
Most students sign up for band their freshmen year and they love it so much that they stay in it for all four years! If a student does not participate their freshmen year, they will miss a year of musical ensemble development. It makes it very difficult to redevelop those musical skills after taking a year off.
So try this: sign up your freshmen year and give it a shot to see how it goes. As mentioned earlier, when most students do this, they’re very glad that they did!

10. Can I march if I don't go to Band Camp?
All students are required to attend all summer camps and rehearsals. There are times when conflicts cannot be avoided, and these will be handled on an individual basis. This band performs music and marching formations of intricate design and with high individual demand, and it would be impossible to make up for the hours of rehearsal at Band Camp.
If you must miss, have a discussion with the directors as soon as possible.

11. How do I register for band?
Marching Band registration will usually take place in July before Band Camp. See the schedule and emails for date, times and requirements.
School course names and numbers will be assigned to your student during enrollment. Freshmen woodwind, brass, and percussion classes will be offered. Oboe and bassoon players should register for the woodwind class, regardless of what instrument they play to participate in marching band.
Appendix

**How to Sync the Band's Calendar on Your Device**

FOR IPHONES:
1. Go into the Settings app
2. Touch "Mail, Contacts, Calendars"
3. Under Accounts, touch "Add Account"
4. On the Add Account screen, touch "Other"
5. Under Calendars, touch "Add Subscribed Calendar"
6. For the Server value, enter the URL of the public calendar: https://www.charmsoffice.com/charms/calsync.asp?s=LassiterHSBand
7. Touch "Next" in the upper right corner.
8. It will verify the server then show a subscription page. Change the description if you like.
9. Touch "Save" to save the subscription.

FOR ANDROID PHONES:
To sync with Android devices, you will need to use your Google account and have a Google calendar created. In your Google calendar on a real computer:
1. Under "Other Calendars" click the Add link.
2. Select "Add by URL"
3. Enter the following URL: https://www.charmsoffice.com/charms/calsync.asp?s=LassiterHSBand
4. Click "Add Calendar" Google will begin to sync your calendar, and it will appear on the screen.
5. Click "Settings"
6. Change the long name of the new calendar to something you will remember such as "Charms Calendar"
7. Your phone should automatically be set to sync with your Google calendar.
8. On your phone: Click on "Calendar", then bring up the settings for the calendar. Click on Calendar Sync. You should see your google account listed already. Make sure Auto-Sync is checked.

FOR WINDOWS PHONES
For Windows Phones with the new "Mango" upgrade you can now sync your Charms calendar.
1. On your PC, open the Windows Live Calendar site for the account your phone uses.
2. Click the Subscribe link (between New and Share).
3. Make sure Subscribe to a public calendar is selected
4. Enter https://www.charmsoffice.com/charms/calsync.asp?s=LassiterHSBand as the Calendar URL
5. Enter "Charms" for the Calendar Name. The color and charm don't apply to the phone.
7. Click Subscribe to calendar.
Now the calendar from Charms is associated with your Windows Live calendar and will appear on your Windows Phone the next time you sync! Thanks David for the instructions!
Meeting Notes
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| **August 2**  
First Day of School! | 3 Full MB 4-6 | 4 | 5 Full MB 4-6 | 6 | 7 |
| 9 Guard | 10 Full MB 4-6 | 11 | 12 Full MB 4-6 | 13 | 14 |
| 16 Guard | 17 Full MB 4-6 | 18 | 19 Full MB 4-6 (Lbba Gen Mtg 7-8PM-Virtual) | 20 LHS @ Riverridge (Away) | 21 |
| 23 Guard | 24 Full MB 4-6 | 25 | 26 Full MB 4-6 | 27 LHS vs. Lambert (Home) | 28 SAT |
| 30 Guard | 31 Full MB 4-6 | **September 1** | 2 Full MB 4-6 (Stadium) Open House | 3 LHS vs. South Cobb (Home) (8th Grade Night) | 4 |
| 6 No School – Labor Day  
Rosh Hashanah | 7 Full MB 4-6:30 | 8 | 9 Full MB 4-6:30 | 10 LHS @ Pope (Away) | 11 ACT |
| 13 | 14 Full MB 4-6:30 | **Rosh Hashanah** | **Yom Kippur** | 17 LHS vs. Wheeler (Homecoming) | 18 |
| 20 Guard | 21 Full MB 4-6:30 | 22 | 23 Full MB 4-6:30 (Lbba Gen Mtg 7-8PM Virtual) | 24 LHS @ Kenn. Mtn. (Away) | 25 |
| 27 **Yom Kippur** | 28 | 29 | 30 | **October 1** | 2 SAT |
| 4 Full MB | 5 Full MB 4-7 | 6 Full MB 4-6 | 7 Full MB 4-7 | 8 LHS vs. Sprayberry (Home) | 9 Mini-Camp 9AM-2PM |
| 11 Cobb Exhibition | 12 Full MB 4-7 | 13 Full MB 4-7 | 14 Full MB 4-7 | 15 LHS @ Osborne (Away) | 16 CONTEST |
| 18 | 19 Full MB 4-6 (Recording Session) | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 ACT |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 Full MB 7-8PM (w/Trunk or Treat) | 29 LHS @ Allatoona (Away) | 30 Craft Fair |
| **November 1** | 2 No School | 3 | 4 Full MB 4-6PM | 5 LHS vs. Kell (Senior Night) | 6 SAT |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 Band Class Auditions | 12 | 13 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 Thanksgiving | 26 Thanksgiving | 27 |
| 29 | 30 | **December 1** | 2 Winter Concert 7PM | 3 | 4 SAT |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 ACT Honor Band Auditions (1st Round) |
| 13 | 14 | 15 Final Exams | 16 Final Exams | 17 Last Day of Semester | 18 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | **Winter Break** | 24 |
| **Winter Break** | | | | | 25 Christmas |

*Revised on 3/24/21 JH*