



# Leo High School Band Handbook 2021/2022



**Bob Myers**  
Director

Official Leo Band Website  
[www.leoband.org](http://www.leoband.org)

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>DETAILED INFORMATION</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
LEO BAND MUSIC PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES.....	3
INTRODUCTION LETTER TO PARENTS .....	4
LEO BAND BOOSTER BOARD INFORMATION .....	5
OBJECTIVES .....	6
BAND AND GUARD GROUPS .....	7
BAND CAMP .....	8
UNIFORM INFORMATION .....	9
AWARDS & REQUIREMENTS .....	11
PARENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES.....	14
FUNDRAISING.....	14

<b>Important deadlines</b>	
<b>Required Forms</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Band/Guard member participation agreement & first payment	2/15
Medicial form	2/15
Contact and Volunteer form	2/15
<b>Band Fee Schedule</b>	
For the 2021/2022 school year, we are requiring a non-refundable commitment to the band at a cost of \$225. The payment schedule is:	
February 15	\$75
March 15	\$75
April 15	\$75
If the marching band season is possible, we will then require an addition \$225. The payment schedule will be:	
September 15	\$75
October 15	\$75
November 15	\$75

**Leo High School band** provides students the:

- Ability to find, use, analyze and present information
- Ability to communicate effectively with others
- Ability to form meaningful and working relationships with each other

The Leo High School Band Program has excelled in many areas during the years. Some of our accomplishments include:

**Marching Band:**

- 2009 - ISSMA Semi-State
- 2009 - All State Music Award
- 2011 - ISSMA State Finalist
- 2013 - ISSMA Semi-State
- 2015 - ISSMA Semi-State
- 2016 - ISSMA Semi-State
- 2016 - All State Music Award
- 2017 - ISSMA Semi-State
- 2018 – All State Music Award
- 2018 – ISSMA Semi-State
- 2019- ISSMA Semi-State
- 2020 – no season due to COVID-19

**Other Opportunities:**

- Disney World Music Workshops — last participated in 2019 (occurs every 3-4 years)
- Disney Magical Parade — last marched in 2019 (occurs every 3-4 years)

There are many benefits associated with joining our band. Participating in the Leo Band Program helps students excel academically, as well as helps them to develop a close-knit unit of friends.

**MUSIC IS...**

**SCIENCE:** exact, specific; and it demands exact acoustics, a conductor's full score is a chart, a graph which indicates frequencies, intensities, volume changes, melody, and harmony all at once with the most exact control of time.

**MATHEMATICS:** rhythmically based on the subdivisions of time into fractions, which must be done instantaneously, not worked out on paper.

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE:** a highly developed kind of shorthand that uses symbols to represent ideas. The semantics of music is the most complex and universal language. And in addition, most terms are in Italian, German, or French and the notation is shorthand.

**HISTORY:** music usually reflects the environment and times of its creation often even the country and or racial feeling.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION:** it requires fantastic coordination of fingers, hands, arms, lip, cheek, and facial muscles, in addition to extraordinary control of the diaphragmatic, back, stomach, and chest muscles, which respond instantly to the sound the ear hears and the mind interprets.

**MUSIC IS ALL OF THESE, BUT MOST OF ALL... MUSIC IS ART:** it allows a human being to take all these dry, technically boring (but difficult techniques) and use them to create emotion. That is the one thing science cannot duplicate: humanism, feeling, emotion, call it what you will.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Entering high school is a giant step forward in every child's educational journey. Your child is facing some important decisions that will have a long-term impact on his/her life. Often young people fear the added workload of the high school curriculum and assume they will not have time to participate in the music program. That is simply not true. Ironically, it is often the continuation of musical studies that serves as the transitional key to success.

Being a member of a music ensemble ensures instant acceptance in a respected organization at the onset of freshman year. A group of supporting friends is already established with a firm sense of belonging.

**There is more to it.**

As a parent, you need to know that:

- Research shows that when music is included in a student's daily life, then reading, writing and math scores improve.
- There is a high correlation between positive self-perception, high cognitive competence scores, healthy self-esteem, total interest in school activities and the study of music.
- College admissions officers give special consideration to students who are part of their high school music programs.
- The longer an individual studies music, the higher his/her scores tend to be on both the verbal and math portions of the SAT exam.
- Employers often seek out students who are part of their high school music program because of the student's ability to solve problems and work well with all kinds of people.

Your child deserves the best as he/she enters the high school culture. Please contact our office if you have any questions concerning this vitally important decision. We join you in your commitment to the best education possible for your child.

Personal Regards,

Bob Myers and LHS Staff  
[Bmyers@eacs.k12.in.us](mailto:Bmyers@eacs.k12.in.us)

Dear Parents,

For first-time band parents, welcome to Leo Band. As we continue to grow our band program, we encourage you to please consider getting involved. It is extremely rewarding to be a part of our children's love for music and exciting to see them achieve their goals as a band. The Leo Band program has been successful due in large part to the dedication and efforts of the band parents.

The Leo Jr/Sr High School Band Boosters, Inc. (a.k.a. LBB) is a non-profit organization whose sole purpose is to support the Leo Jr/Sr High School instrumental music program. The LBB Executive Board consists of the Band Director, President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and the Fundraising Chairperson. Annual nominations and elections are held by the current year's board for incoming board members. While the band director will have full control of the instrumental music program and students, the LBB was developed to assist in the following areas.

- To recruit and maintain an active participation of band parents/families to support and encourage band student interest in all aspects of the Leo Band Program.
- Foster a sense of enthusiasm and cooperation, to help students accept responsibility for their own successes and/or failures in a good sportsmanship manner, whether while performing on stage or the competition field.
- Offer financial assistance through fundraising to the Leo Band Program, helping with the purchase of music, instruments, equipment/supplies, props, etc. to the degree possible.
- It shall not be a purpose of the LBB, as a group or any individual representative, to comment on, or interfere with the curriculum or discipline policies of Leo Band Program.
- Those not willing to abide by this statement of purpose and the rules and guidelines of the Bylaws shall be asked to relinquish position for the welfare of the LBB and, more importantly, the students involved in the Band Program.

All parents are a VITAL part of the Leo Band program and are encouraged to attend all scheduled parent meetings, so we can keep you informed of any needs and/or changes in the program. We look forward to working with our committee chairpersons and parent volunteers to make this year a successful year for the band!

Respectfully, Leo Band Boosters

## Objectives of the Leo High School Band Program

- To give each student an education in music that will challenge and enrich their lives.
- To develop the personal character traits of leadership and self-discipline.
- To develop cooperation and teamwork.
- To develop the skill and technical ability that leads to proficiency on an instrument.
- To acquaint the student with a wide and varied repertoire of band literature.
- To provide the foundational study which may lead to a career in music.
- To serve and represent the school in public concerts, parades, competitions, and other functions.

Music plays an important part in all our lives. The Leo High School Band Program, both as an academic study and interactive activity, contributes to the growth of an individual's character, citizenship, and leadership. These goals can all be achieved through the hard work, dedication, discipline, and the pursuit of excellence evident in the Leo High School Band Program.

### First Semester Focus — Marching Band & Concert Band

During this season, the band focuses on challenging these students through excellences in performance. Content includes major/minor scales, phrasing and intonation exercises, etudes for flexibility, and mainly group 1 literature. The goal is to achieve at the highest level possible while continuing to build on the fundamentals learned in previous years, in order to prepare the students for college level playing. This group performs at all the home football games, ISSMA Marching Contests, and local parades.

### Second Semester Focus — Concert Band

During this season, the band focuses on challenging these students through excellences in performance. Content includes major/minor scales, phrasing and intonation exercises, etudes for flexibility, and mainly group 1 literature. The goal is to achieve at the highest level possible while continuing to build on the fundamentals learned in previous years, in order to prepare the students for college level playing. This group performs at the High School Band Winter Concert, the ISSMA Organizational Contest, and High School Band Spring Concert

Four-year class schedule options that include band			
Freshman		Sophomore	
Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 1	Semester 2
English	English	English	English
Math option	Math option	Math option	Math option
Science option	Science option	Science option	Science option
<b>PE</b>	Elective	<b>College Career</b>	Health
World History	World History	Elective	Elective
Foreign language	Foreign language	Foreign language	Foreign language
Band	Band	Band	Band
Junior		Senior	
English	English	English	English
Math option	Math option	Math option	Math option
Science option	Science option	Science option	Science option
<b>U.S. History</b>	<b>U.S. History</b>	<b>Government</b>	<b>Economics</b>
Foreign language	Foreign language	Foreign language	Foreign language
Elective	Elective	Elective	Elective
Band	Band	Band	Band
<p><b>Note:</b> Band is listed as Intermediate Concert Band on the Course Selection Sheet. Percussion students need to request second period since they have a different class period then the rest of the band.</p>			

## First semester Band & Guard Groups

### Marching Band: "Roar of the Lions"

Marching Band is a fun and rewarding time for all students and parents. We need each band member's parents to donate time and talents to help make our band program a success! Please do your part to help. Every band parent is required to donate or volunteer at least a minimal amount.

All band members participate in marching band during the fall season. It is mandatory for students to attend:

- Band camp
- All rehearsals
- All home football games
- All competitions

NOTE: Color Guard and Percussion have extra rehearsals.

Participation in these activities count as additional summer credits and are part of the student's final grade.

Excused absences include:

- Illness
- Death in the family
- Other family emergencies as approved by the Director

### Jazz Ensemble

Students participating in this co-curricular activity develop musicianship and specific performance skills through group and individual settings for the study and performance of the varied styles of instrumental jazz. Students develop their creative skills through:

- Improvisation
- Composition
- Arranging
- Performing
- Listening
- Analyzing

**Participation in Jazz Band is by audition and permission of the director.** There is a demand placed on each individual to achieve a high level of musical proficiency. Therefore, students are expected to practice regularly, on their own, several hours per week. Private lessons are recommended, but not required. The Jazz Band performs for school and community events as well as various jazz festivals throughout the year. Additional rehearsals may be scheduled as needed. There is a separate fee for this group, if selected.

### Winter Drumline

Percussionists and band members are invited to participate in Winter Drumline. This group is led by the Percussion director. Practice will be from December up until they compete in contests in February and March. The final opportunity to compete is at the Indiana Percussion Association (IPA) State Finals in late March.

### Winter Guard

Color Guard members and band students are invited to participate in Winter Guard. This group is led by the Color Guard Director. Practice will be in the winter, with performances in January/February at various events and/or competitions.

## Second semester Band & Guard Groups

### Pep Band

All band members are required to perform at home varsity boys & girls basketball games. Attendance at games is mandatory and counts toward the student's final grade. Excused absences include illness, death in the family, or other family emergencies as approved by Director.

### Concert Band

All band members take part in the concert band and have the opportunity to develop their skills.

### Summer Band Camp for Band & Guard

Band camp is extremely rewarding and fun. However, it requires hard work and dedication to accomplish our goals. Band and guard members will learn the marching show during these two weeks, so attendance is imperative!!!



### TOP 10 WAYS TO PREPARE FOR BAND CAMP

1. 3-ring binder with strap for your music & page protectors.
2. Instrument / Music / Drill / Flag / Rifle
3. Hat / sunglasses to protect against the sun
4. Eat breakfast before you arrive, but avoid milk
5. Comfortable lace-up shoes and socks (no flip flops or sandals)
6. Bring lots of WATER!
7. Lip Balm with SPF
8. Pack a lunch (otherwise you'll get really hungry!)
9. Wear SUNSCREEN!!!
10. WATER, WATER, AND yes, WATER!!!!



### Helpful Resources: Websites for various Indiana music programs

[www.inbands.com](http://www.inbands.com) (please remember schedules posted on this site are subject to change)

[www.smartmusic.com](http://www.smartmusic.com)

[www.issma.net](http://www.issma.net)

## **Uniform Requirements**

### **Marching Band Uniform**

All students enrolled in band are fitted for marching uniforms and shoes. Students will be informed of fitting dates and times at the beginning of each season.

The uniform consists of black bib pants, jacket, shako, plume, gloves, black dress socks (no ankle socks), and marching shoes. The white band t-shirt (part of band fees) and black athletic shorts (not baggy or hanging below the knees) are to be worn under the marching uniform. This aids students in changing modestly into their uniforms as well as keeping the uniforms clean and in the best shape possible.

It is mandatory that no hair shows beneath the shako (marching band hat). Wearing jewelry is prohibited while in uniform – there are rules for ISSMA competitions, and this is part of those rules. It is recommended that all earrings, chains, watches, etc. be left at home.

All students are responsible for the general care of these items while they are wearing them. Any unreasonable amount of wear, damage, or loss of any part of these uniforms could result in a student being charged a replacement, cleaning, or repair fee. Please see the following page for additional information.

**NOTE:** The cost and care of the black shorts and black crew socks are the responsibility of the student/parents.

### **Summer Parade Uniform**

All band members will need to purchase a band polo their first year. This polo is worn for summer parades, pep band and other band activities. Students need to wear khaki shorts and sneakers with their purple polo. They will wear the same band polo each year unless a new design is chosen.

### **Concert Wear — Males**

All males are required to dress in nice dress clothes — White, Purple, or black shirt and black slacks and dress shoes. No jeans, shorts, t-shirts, or athletic shoes.

### **Concert Wear — Females**

All girls are required to dress up in nice dress clothes. No jeans, shorts, short skirts, t-shirts, or athletic shoes.

### **Winter Drumline Uniform**

All percussion ensemble students are required to wear designated shirt and black slacks.

### **Jazz Band Uniform**

All Jazz band students are required to dress up in nice dress clothes - black top and black skirt or slacks.

### **Pep Band Uniform**

The purple band polo shirt is required to be worn at all Pep Band games.

## Marching Band Uniform Care

### Rules

- Do Not EAT or DRINK when in uniform. You may drink water only.
- Do Not lean up against the bus or the semi-trailer. Please watch where you stand, sit or walk when in uniform.
- NO horseplay, rolling in the grass, etc.
- Be on your best behavior, please act like an adult. Remember you represent Leo High School and are required to act properly.

### Your Responsibility

- To have full-length black crew socks, wear your white band t-shirt (included in fees) and black shorts.
- Hair needs to be up under the shako (hat). Hair should not be seen. Use pins, hair bands, etc. to keep it up **both male & female students.**
- NO Jewelry. Please keep all piercings, necklaces, rings, bracelets at home for safe keeping.
- Let the Uniform Parent know when you have a problem with your uniform. Concerns would be a missing button, stains, fit issues.

**NOTE:** Gloves and plums will be issued prior to and collected after competitions.

### Instrument Care

Each student is responsible for their own or school-owned instrument. Normal wear and tear on a school-owned instrument will be paid by the school/band. Any neglect, abuse, or damage to a school-owned or personal instrument will be paid by the student.

### UNIFORM REPLACEMENT FEES

Item	Replacement Cost
Band T-shirt (show shirt)	\$10
Band Polo	\$20
<b>Marching Uniform</b>	
Jacket	\$210
Jacket Collar	\$10
Sash	\$100
Bib Pants	\$65
Shako (hat)	\$25
Plume	\$8
Beret (Sousaphone only)	\$20
Shoes	\$40
Gloves	\$5
Buttons	\$3
Garment bags	\$10

## **Requirements to receive High School Band Awards**

### **Band Note (8<sup>th</sup> Grader in HS band)**

1. Earn a grade of A- or better in 2 semesters of High School Band.
2. ISSMA solo and ensemble participation in at least Group III, earning at least a Division 2 (Excellent) rating
3. No unexcused or excessive absences

### **Certificate (First Year HIGH SCHOOL)**

1. Earn a grade of A- or better in 2 semesters in High School Band.
2. ISSMA solo and ensemble participation in at least Group III, earning at least a Division 2 (Excellent) rating
3. No unexcused or excessive absences
4. Completion of 6 volunteer events

### **Letter (Second Year HIGH SCHOOL)**

1. Must have earned a music department Certificate previously
2. Earn a grade of A- or better in 4 semesters in High School Band.
3. ISSMA solo and ensemble participation in at least Group II, earning at least a Division 2 (Excellent) rating
4. No unexcused or excessive absences
5. Completion of 6 volunteer events

### **Pin (Third Year HIGH SCHOOL)**

1. Must have earned a music department Letter previously
2. Earn a grade of A- or better in 6 semesters in High School Band.
3. ISSMA solo and ensemble participation in Group I, earning at least a Division 2 (Excellent) rating
4. No unexcused or excessive absences
5. Completion of 6 volunteer events

### **Blanket (Fourth Year HIGH SCHOOL)**

1. Must have earned a music department Pin previously
2. Earn a grade of A- or better in 8 semesters in High School Band.
3. ISSMA solo and ensemble participation in Group I, earning at least a Division 2 (Excellent) rating
4. No unexcused or excessive absences
5. Completion of 6 volunteer events

**NOTE: All awards shall be given at the discretion of the band director.**

## Marching Band Etiquette

We wanted to share some information about what to do during the contest and how contests are judged. Following is a break down to help answer your questions.

### Band Fan Etiquette (marching band competition)

#### A. General Information

- Please remember that we are not at a ball game where people get up and walk around any time they please. Band performances are to be treated as any symphony concert would - very respectful of the performers who have worked extremely hard to be in this position. With that said, don't get up, go to the concession stand, restroom, or just to explore the stadium while a band is performing. Wait until the band has finished the performance before leaving your seat.
- Radios (Walkie talkie, CB, ham, small TV and AM/FM) are not allowed at the contest site for they interfere with the host site trying to operate the entire contest. Leo could get into trouble with ISSMA, INC. if any of our fans are caught interfering with the contest.
- Cell phones should be turned OFF prior to entering the audience/performance area. The judges are right behind you.

#### B. During Other Bands' Shows

- Don't enter and/or leave the bleachers while a band is performing (do that between bands).
- Don't TALK, yell, scream, or stand up during another show.
- Definitely don't make negative comments about another band (remember, not only do those students work hard just as ours, but their parents are just as proud and are sitting near you).
- Applaud each show.

#### C. During Our Show and the Awards Presentations

- Stand up and cheer when the band enters the field.
- Definitely cheer/applaud during the highlights and exciting parts of the show (after the opening impact for example).
- Sit together. You will have to get there early to do this.
- Clap for ALL other bands during awards.
- Clap for Leo, but don't yell, scream, and carry on (we want to be classy and respectful of the other bands).
- Wait for all Bands to be awarded before leaving.

#### D. Preparing Our Students

- Ensure your student has their black socks, white t-shirt and black shorts
- While the band is in uniform, NEVER give candy, food, or drinks (other than water) etc. to students.
- Please don't bother the Band Director(s) and staff with small items (i.e.: Susie lost her gloves, etc.) Find a solution... (See a uniform Mom.)

## E. Critiquing Our Students

Every year, we have parents and friends who get confused on the reward/recognition system. Leo competes with no other band other than Leo themselves. Although we may gather a trophy from time to time, this doesn't necessarily mean that we have reached our goals of performance.

The staff and seniors are always working with the entire band to focus on how prepared we need to be for each week of performances and even sometimes we may win shows with less than our best performance. Just ask any older student or any parents who have been around for several years and they will explain it to you. If the staff is working on your child more than you think they should, please remember that we as a staff are very committed to all our young people and have the drive and desire to make them the best they can possibly be.

Most of our students have no idea just how good they can truly be, but we do. We have the experience, resources, determination, and love to get them there.

## II. Adjudication of the Bands - All bands are judged in three main areas:

- **Music** – Two judges listen to how well the band is playing or not playing their music.
- **Visual** – Two judges watching how well the band is moving (feet at the same time, correct spacing between the members, body posture, etc.)
- **General Effect** – Two judges primarily watching the entire show: drill design, sense of good programming in the music, color guard, how well the show is being performed, coordination and effectiveness.

Those 3 areas determine the ranking of a band. Most invitational shows also hire other adjudicators to judge areas such as Drum Major, Color Guard, Percussion, and sometimes, even the Pit Crew (what we call the parents who help the band set up and tear down). These caption awards have no bearing on the placement of the bands.

To progress in ISSMA competitions, a band must score:

- District level - a Gold rating
- Regional level – a Gold rating and be one of the top 5 bands to make semi-State
- Semi-State – a Gold rating and be one of the top 10 band to make State

Point values for these rating vary depending on class performing in and level of competition. For more information or contest information, visit [www.inbands.com](http://www.inbands.com).



## Volunteer Opportunities

A successful band program requires many volunteers. Please see our web page for [volunteer opportunities](#).

## Fundraisers

We realize that raising money is not a favorite thing to do. However, it is very necessary. Paying for music, copyrights, drills, uniform maintenance, flags, pit equipment, auxiliary instructors, contest entry fees, school-owned instruments, props, etc. in order to put a quality marching band show on the field takes a LOT of money.

We have several fundraisers to raise money for the band programs. MANY OF THEM DO NOT REQUIRE SELLING ANYTHING, THEY JUST REQUIRE ALL MEMBER PARTICIPATION. (THIS INCLUDES BAND, PIT, AND GUARD MEMBERS)

***\*\*\*ALL band students are required to work at three volunteer events per semester to count toward their band awards.\*\*\****

All fundraising opportunities can be found on our [website](#).

**Year-Round Fundraising made easy:** organizations give back to the band based on the shopping you do every day

## Kroger Community Rewards

Support Leo Band by signing up for Kroger Community Rewards program.

### How to get started:

1. Have your Kroger Plus card ready to register at [krogercommunityrewards.com](http://krogercommunityrewards.com)
2. Enter Leo Band's NPO# 83217, or name of organization, "Leo Band Boosters", to link your card to our organization. **\*\*\*Please share this with family and friends.\*\*\***

## Scrip

Earn money towards band fees through the year with our Scrip Program. Go to [shopwithscrip.com](http://shopwithscrip.com) to purchase gift cards or use the RaiseRight app. Any profits earned will be split 50/50 between the family purchasing and the band.

### How to get started:

1. Join our program by creating an account on **ShopWithScrip.com** or **downloading the RaiseRight app**.
2. Enter our organization's enrollment code: **4FC8D3B863384**
3. Link your bank account to enroll in online payments with PrestoPay and place your first order.

Have a question? Contact your coordinator at: [LeoBandBoosterScrip@Gmail.com](mailto:LeoBandBoosterScrip@Gmail.com)

## Amazon Smiles

Leo Band is part of the Amazon Smiles Program. Amazon will donate 0.05% of your order to us when you shop using the website: AmazonSmiles (not Amazon.com)

1. Using the following link: [smile.amazon.com/ch/45-2975674](http://smile.amazon.com/ch/45-2975674), will take you to the familiar Amazon sign in.
2. Amazon will confirm you understand the only way to earn money for the Band is through the Smiles link. You can then begin shopping. It's that easy!