

2020-2021 Band & Color Guard Information and Registration

Todd Tucker Director of Bands (937) 428-5328 Todd.Tucker@alterhs.org

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Alter High School 940 E. David Rd. Kettering OH 45429

Welcome to Alter Band and Color Guard...Alter Marching Knights (AMK)

Greetings and welcome to what will be another award-winning season with the AMK family. This contains basic information for all members and families. Parents and AMK members MUST read this together since each member and his/her parents are held responsible for its contents. Any questions concerning the contents should be directed to Todd Tucker, Director of Bands, at (937) 428-5328, Todd.Tucker@alterhs.org.

General Information

AMK perform at home and local away football games, parades, festivals, pep assemblies and competitions. Each student is expected to assume full responsibility for membership in the organization and to accept these responsibilities to the best of his/her ability. Effort, attitude, and commitment are the keys to an enjoyable experience in the AMK Program.

Band and Color Guard Classes

- **Band members enroll** in the Band class: Brass, Percussion or Woodwind during the school day. Band is a full year course, and students receive 1 credit for the year.
- **Color Guard members enroll** in Visual Ensemble A and B and can receive 1/2 credit for fall and 1/2 credit for spring.
- **Band/Color Guard members will be enrolled in the after school portion of the class, Band PM**, in the fall and receive an additional 1/2 credit. The after school portion of the class meets 3:30-5:30 M, W, Th, & F.
- **Beginning in January**, Band: Brass, Percussion or Woodwind class becomes Wind Ensemble and Color Guard members have the opportunity to be a part of the Winter Guard/Visual Ensemble B class and/or audition for the extracurricular Winter Guard program/show.

Band and Color Guard Fees

June-December (7 months): **range between \$1,100-1,200. This fee includes your deposit in May(\$250)**, show uniform, t-shirts, band camp, all transportation, instrument/equipment rental, meals, lodging and travel for competitions and group fees throughout the year. **This DOES NOT include FJM Camp in June or performance shoes for marching season.**

January-May (5 months): Approx range between \$80-\$300. Fees depend on how many ensembles the student is in. These additional fees may include instrument rental, pep band, jazz ensemble, percussion ensemble, winter guard, brass ensemble, woodwind

ensembles, festival participation, honor band participation, food fees, etc. Fees are dependent on which and how many ensembles each student participates in.

Mini Camp and Band Camp

Attendance is mandatory. Band Camp materials and registration information will be distributed to parents via email. It is the utmost importance that the hours of Mini Camp and Band Camp are undisturbed by appointments and any conflicts. Please plan accordingly.

- Mini Camp: July 20 - 24, 2020, 9:00 - 5:00 p.m. at Alter High School
- Band Camp: July 26 - 31, 2020 at Wright State University (overnight)

Band Rehearsal and Performance Responsibilities

Students must participate and attend all sectionals and rehearsals:

- Summer sectionals/rehearsals (determined by Band Director, Staff and Student Leaders)
- After school class/rehearsals at school Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday – 3:30-5:30 p.m.
- A calendar is provided to each member with the dates and types of performances. All calendar information can be obtained from weekly emails our *Band App* or on Facebook: [Alter High School Bands](#) (updated weekly). Any dates added during the year will be published as early as possible so members can clear their schedule.

Performances

The Band/Color Guard perform at home and local away football games, select parades, festivals, pep assemblies, and competitions. All performances are mandatory, including performance trips. Absences due to major family commitments will be handled on an individual basis at the discretion of the Director of Bands.

Absences

Being an integral part of any organization requires a commitment, but from time to time conflicts arise. Performances and rehearsals are mandatory requirements for the class for all members of the Band/Color Guard; however, consideration will be made for deaths in the family and illness. Any other conflicts will be handled on a case-by-case basis and at the Director's discretion. **All absences require communication. Students are enrolled in a course and are receiving a grade. Attendance and tardiness are treated just as they would be with any other school course. Any of these without timely communication or in excess can result in lowering a student's grade.**

Please make arrangements for doctor/dental appointments, driving school, senior pictures, work, music lessons, concerts, school Kairos events and other events on non-class days or times. It is the student's responsibility to communicate any conflicts with

the Director, coaches, teachers, and employers as soon as possible so decisions and potential compromises can be reached. Asking a friend or classmate to relay a message about your absence is unacceptable and considered irresponsible. Being absent from rehearsal/class takes valuable time from those members that are present. You as an individual lose valuable practice time that cannot be duplicated in any other setting. If a student has an unexcused absence from a rehearsal during the week, the Director reserves the right to have them sit out during the performance at that week's game and it may also affect their grade.

- Excused absences - Include, but are not limited to: death or serious illness in the family, personal illness, required school functions
- Unexcused absences - Include, but are not limited to: employment, non-mandatory school events (concerts, etc.), non-mandatory social events, unnecessary appointments (that are avoidable with planning) music/other lessons.

Student Conduct and Expectations

The Director and staff expect the students to follow the Code of Personal Ethics consistent with being a part of the Alter High School Community. Since each member represents both the Band/Color Guard and the school, we expect every individual's conduct during school, at school events, and at events outside the school to reflect favorably upon the school, the band, the Director, fellow members and the community. Failure to comply with the band, school, or civic regulations will lead to disciplinary action and possible dismissal and withdrawal from the class and ensemble.

General Rules of Behavior

- Disrespect will not be tolerated and will result in demerits/discipline.
- The Alter Student/Parent Handbook and all rules that govern Alter High School are in effect at all Alter music functions.
- Always follow directions from Director, staff, chaperones, and student leaders.
- No cell phones are to be used during class, rehearsals, performances, or in the stands at football games. Appropriate breaks are given where phone use is permitted and appropriate. Unauthorized use can result in: the phone being confiscated, demerits and/or lower grade points for an event.
- Stay in designated areas at each game, competition, etc.
- Be on time for rehearsals, performances, departures...Everything! On time means instrument and equipment out and ready to begin.
- Be respectful and courteous to: Director, staff, all students, parents, members of other schools and their property.
- Follow all instructions given by bus drivers and chaperones. These people are there to ensure everyone's safety. Show them the respect and the appreciation they deserve.

Uniform Information

All Band/Color Guard members are fitted for their uniforms and issued other assigned accessories before football/competition season begins. **As part of annual band fees, each new member is provided an Alter Music tee and Alter Duffle Bag New guard members are provided warmups. Any personalization is at the member's expense. All members are provided one show shirt and one section shirt for the year.**

- Show uniforms are kept in the band room to ensure availability for each performance.
- Personal Items are purchased by the member and must be brought for each performance (includes shoes, socks, gloves, undergarments).
- Casual Uniform are worn when determined by Director.
- Spirit Wear can be ordered for the band member, family and friends.

Shoes

- Band - All Black MTX Brand. Contact Fred J. Miller (FJM) in June to order band shoes. You must know your shoe size and tell them that you need all black MTX brand. You pick them up at FJM, 8765 Washington Church Rd., Miamisburg, Ohio Phone 937-434-1121
- Color Guard – Please see Mrs. Mindy Liechty or Sarah Hoffman, Color Guard Instructors, for Color Guard shoes for the 2020-2021 season.

Alter Music Association

Parents of students in the AMK are automatically active members of the Alter Music Association (AMA). The primary goal of the AMA is to provide advancement and financial support for Alter High School music programs. These funds support student music groups including: Marching Band, Color Guard, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, Pep Band, Percussion Ensemble and any additional ensembles or music programs.

AMA Meetings

As active members of the AMA, each family is expected to be represented by at least one parent/guardian at each of the four general meetings of the AMA in July, October, February and May at Alter High School. The next meeting is in May 2020. Meetings are always at 7pm in the Alter Band Hall.

Fundraisers for Students and Parents

Parent and student participation in our fundraising projects is essential. Participation is necessary because these activities provide the majority of the operating funds. Mandatory requirements ensure that everyone does his/her fair share. **There are two mandatory fundraisers**

- Spring Mulch Sale - (March – May timeframe) – Mandatory: Parents are responsible for 2-3 shifts, each student is required to do 4 shifts. There is \$50 fee per shift if members do not meet the requirement.
- March-A-Thon - (June – August timeframe) – Mandatory: Each student will raise a minimum \$400-450

There are opportunities for families to offset their personal band fees by participating in non-mandatory opportunities:

- Scrip – Gift cards are purchased through the Scrip program at full face value. The purchase earns a rebate percentage which is then applied to the individual family fees.
- Poster Sales – Ads are purchased by businesses and private individuals for inclusion on the 2020-21 AMK Poster. A portion of the sales is credited to the family band fees.

Regular Band Communications

- AMA General Meetings
- Weekly AMK Update – Email/App updates sent by Mr. Tucker identifying activities for the week
- *Band App* – Calendar, student music, and information for students, parents and staff
- Signup Genius – Volunteer signups. You will need to create an account.
- Text Alerts via *Band App*
- Facebook & Instagram pages
- AMA Webpage
- Alter Fine Arts Homepage on Alter HS site

Next Steps to Become a Marching Knight!

- Review this document with your child to ensure they understand the expectations.
- **Complete registration online at <https://alterhs.org/band-registration/> with your child.**
The registration requires electronic signature by your child and you and signifies agreement with the Commitment and Release form details listed below.
- If you require a paper copy of the registration form, please contact Mr. Tucker.
- **If you are paying your non-refundable deposit of \$250 per student by check, print out the confirmation email from your online registration, make check payable to “Alter High School” and return to Todd Tucker by May 1, 2020.**

Agreement with following Commitment and Release Form will be accomplished during online registration. The verbiage is added here for parent/student convenience while reviewing the Alter Band/Guard Information document.

Alter Marching Knights Commitment Form

To secure your placement for all band events/activities, you are required to sign this commitment form. This commitment also reserves your space in any drill written for the Band and Color Guard, music arrangements, band camp, competitions and trips.

By completing the online registration, you will be indicating your agreement to the following statements:.

- I agree to the commitment to attend all required Band/Color Guard rehearsals, classes, performances, events and other activities arranged for the 2020-21 academic calendar and as identified in the Marching Band & Color Guard Information document
- I agree to the commitment to participate in the mandatory Fundraisers as identified in the Marching Band & Color Guard Information document
- I understand that additional promotional activities may be required for fundraising events.
- I understand the above requirements are considered as school fees. Report cards will be held by Alter High School if these requirements are not fulfilled or fees paid.
- I understand if student quits or is asked to leave the program, he/she will still be required to fulfill a proportional amount of this agreements.
- We, both student and parents, have read, understand, and will abide by the standards stated in the Alter Band/Color Guard Information document.

Alter Marching Knights Release 2020-2021

I hereby consent to the above named student(s) participation in all parts of the Alter Band/Color Guard program. This consent includes travel to and from the sites of summer camp, events, rehearsals, performances, contests, competitions, and fund-raising events both within Montgomery County, Ohio and outside the area. Such travel may include ground travel via private automobile, school bus, school van or chartered bus. This consent also includes staying overnight in college dormitories, or hotel rooms; times which may be in the presence of adult supervision, as well as times which may not be in the presence of an adult. Furthermore, in consideration of the opportunity afforded the undersigned minor to attend the Alter High School Band Camp accompanied by volunteer adults, we do hereby release and discharge Alter High School, the Alter Music Association, all representatives of the foregoing organizations, all volunteers, employees, and all persons acting in their behalf, from any liability for any injury, casualty, or damage claim which we or any of us might sustain in connection with the attendance or participation of said minor at such activities or transportation to or from such activities. We recognize that such activities can be physically, emotionally, and/or mentally strenuous, and could result in temporary or permanent injury, disability, or even death. We further recognize that Alter High School and the organizations and persons released herein do not provide health, accident, or life insurance, and we assume the risk that any injury, disability, or death might cause financial liabilities, and hold the organizations and persons released herein harmless of and from any such financial liabilities.