



NORMAL MARCHING BAND

the Pride of Unit 5

The NMB

The Normal Marching Band is a program of the Normal Community and Normal West High School Bands. In its third year, the NMB will continue to build upon the rich traditions of excellence at Normal West and Normal Community High Schools. The group will proudly represent our schools, school district, and community on the local, regional, and national stages. In its first two seasons, the NMB has been named Grand Champion (Belleville East Competition in 2018), received a Division I rating (Bands of America St. Louis Super Regional Championships in 2018), and placed second in its class at the Bands of America Louisville Regional Championships (2019) and the Illinois Marching Band Championships at the University of Illinois (2019). The band was named the Illinois State Fair Parade Champion in 2018 and the Illinois State Fair Honor Band in 2019.

OPPORTUNITIES

We are excited about the teambuilding, collaboration, and leadership opportunities available to students in this group. Participating students develop self-discipline as well as musical and marching skills as a part of a high caliber band, drum line, front ensemble, and color guard.

The NMB is open to any student who fully commits to the rehearsal and performance schedules. With this model, the NMB does not limit opportunities for student participation.

Placement in the drum line and color guard is determined by audition. Additional information regarding these auditions will be distributed next semester. The front ensemble (stationary percussion instruments) is open to all students who play a percussion instrument in a high school band class.

PARTICIPATION

The NMB is an extracurricular ensemble that rehearses outside of the school day. During the summer, there are rehearsals/camps held in June and late July/early August. Specific dates will be published early next semester. During the school year, rehearsals are typically held two evenings weekly as well as on Saturdays, often before competitions. Woodwind, Brass, and Percussion students who play in marching band must also register for a concert band class that meets during the school day. If you play oboe, bassoon, or another instrument that is not typically found in the marching band, there are options available for you to participate. The high school band directors would be happy to answer your questions and help you decide on an instrument that will work for you!

In addition to the full NMB Calendar, students perform at their school's home football games. The entire NMB may also perform at the NCHS/NCWHS game and/or the schools' homecoming games.

In their junior and senior years, marching band members are exempt from Physical Education classes during the fall semester, affording them the opportunity to take a single-semester course offering or study hall in the place of PE.

VOLUNTEERS

Parents – do not miss out on the opportunity to be a part of this experience! There are a variety of ways to get involved, big or small. Chaperones, field crew/pit parents, event volunteers, and band boosters are greatly appreciated! Let us help you find a volunteer experience that works for you!

MEETING INFO

An Informational Meeting will be held next semester. Look for details at normalmb.org soon!



We feel very strongly about the quality of the young adults that participate in the marching band, and we are excited to invite you to participate! The experience will be one to remember for a lifetime!

Ryan Budzinski
budzinsr@unit5.org

Lance Meadows
meadowld@unit5.org

Lisa Preston
prestols@unit5.org

