

# What Do I Need for Marching Band Camp & Marching Season?

- **Drink lots of water and be active prior to marching band camp** – don't wait until the first day of camp to hydrate and to be exerting yourself!
- **Get a gallon water cooler/jug with your name clearly printed on the outside in permanent marker.** You will need this every day for band camp, as well as throughout the marching season. Fill it with iced water at home prior to leaving for school. There will be some water available to re-fill water jugs at the practice field, but there is a limited amount, and it will eventually cause a line-up if too many try to re-fill all at the same time! *During the school year, consider filling your water jug with ice in the morning or the night before. By the time you reach rehearsal after school, most of the ice will have melted, and you'll have cold water to drink!*
- **You will need comfortable ATHLETIC SHOES and socks at every rehearsal.** Sandals/Flip-flops/Slip-ons are not allowed during a marching band rehearsal. You must also have shoes on your feet at all times when outside.
- **Sunscreen.** You will need it for just about every rehearsal.
- **A brimmed hat and sunglasses.** This will provide extra protection from the sun, and sunglasses will allow you to see the drum majors and where you're going while you march.
- **Light colored clothing.** Avoid dark colors when rehearsing outside in the sun!
- **A personal instrument that is in good working order.** Get your instrument in over the summer to get it checked-out and brought up to good playing condition. **DON'T WAIT**, as the instrument repair shops get very busy as July nears. Also, double check your supply of reeds, valve oil, etc. *Clarinets and saxophones should always have a box of reeds at all times – not just “one good reed.”*
- **A flip folder with at least 10 sleeves, and a lyre.** This is an essential piece of equipment for marching band, and will be required at rehearsals and performances. Any music store that handles band instruments will have these on hand, but it would be a good idea to call ahead of time. Also, it is best to take the instrument into the store to have the correct lyre fitted to your specific instrument (different instrument manufacturers have different lyre connections).
- **For full-uniform performances,** everyone will need a pair of compression shorts (knee-length recommended) and black knee-high socks.

**If you are unsure about any of these items, please check with your Section Leader or a Drum Major for help and assistance!**