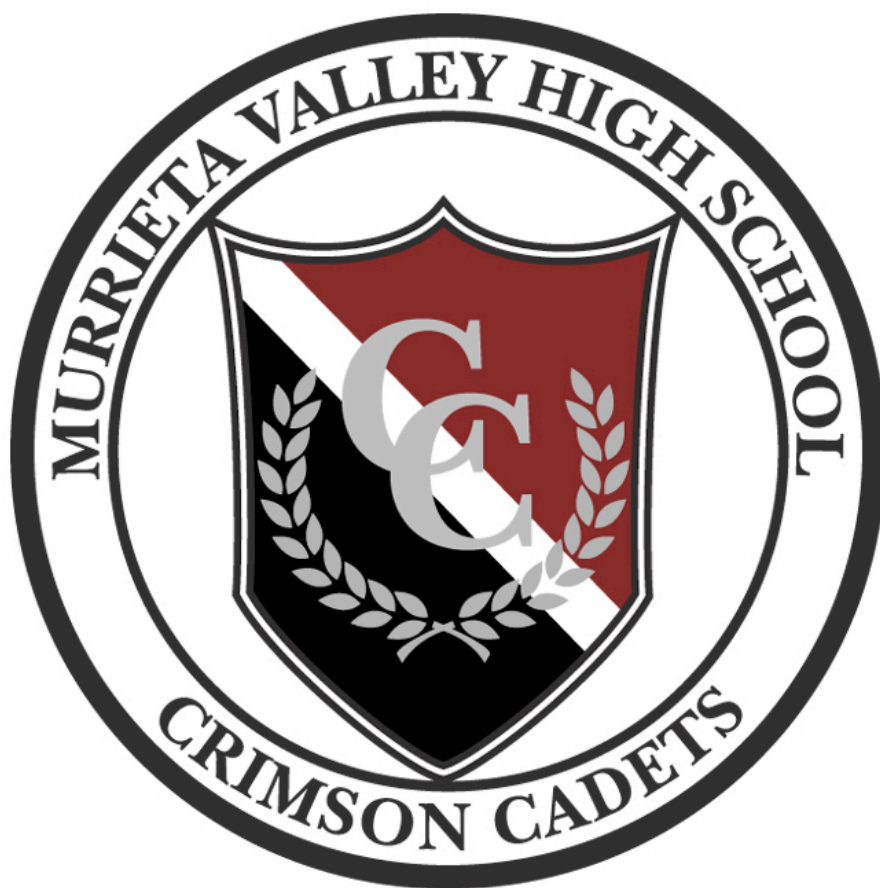


*Murrieta Valley High School
Crimson Cadet Band and Color Guard Program*



*Questions and Answers
Introductory and Informational Packet for New Members*

IMAGINE going to a new school and not knowing anything about where to go or who to talk to. This is the case with many high school freshmen. The transition from middle school to high school **is easier for band and color guard students** because they have the benefit of having over 150 friends to help them through the process. Incoming band freshmen have immediate contact with upperclassmen, in a big brother / sister kind of way. High school band is very healthy for students in a multitude of ways.

WHAT IS THIS THING CALLED BAND?

The Murrieta Valley High School Instrumental Music Program provide a unique opportunity for students to gain appreciation and knowledge of music and art, while developing and clarifying the skills and discipline necessary to achieve success throughout a lifetime of experiences. Students learn the importance of cooperation and teamwork by working with fellow members striving to accomplish common goals. Music students have fun meeting new friends and traveling to new and exciting places as they pridefully represent our school and community.

"Band has always been a great experience since day one of my freshman year. Not only have I learned how to be a better musician, but I have learned a tremendous amount about myself, my strengths and weaknesses. I strive now for excellence in all I set my mind to."

Samantha Holmes
12th Grade
4 year member.

The Crimson Cadets provide entertainment at football games, pep rallies, parades and perform competitively at field show tournaments. The competitive field show is known for its excellence!!!

Often incoming freshmen are concerned about marching. The soon find, however, that their fears and concerns are unfounded. Most even consider the band to be one of the highlights of their high school careers. We believe that the musical and social growth that occurs in the band is central to our students' development. This is due in great part, the close association of our upperclassmen leaders with our new members. The freshmen receive a great deal of personal attention from our upperclassmen "mentors" and are shown a firsthand example of what it takes to succeed here at MVHS.

WHY YOU SHOULD CONSIDER JOINING?

High school band is unlike anything you have done before!!! It can greatly enhance your high school career, and it is, very simply, a great experience!!!

The Crimson Cadets have gained acclaim, both locally and nationally, not only for its high standards of performance, but also for the quality of experience given to its members. Our program serves as a model for programs across Southern California and beyond. As your participate in the program and continue to grow, this will become clearer to you as it has to hundreds of students before you!! The pride and sense of camaraderie that are the cornerstones of our program will profoundly impact your life!!

Many new music students at Murrieta Valley do not understand how we reach such high levels and this is sometimes a source of fear. Incoming freshmen often assume that the only way to get so good at band is to do nothing other than band. This could not be further from the truth. In fact, one of the facets of the band that we are most proud of is that we accomplish these very high goals while maintaining a balance with the total school experience. We have top scholars, athletes, cheerleaders, honor society members, club leaders, etc. among our ranks. We believe that students should experience many diverse activities and encourage them to do so. All of our after school rehearsal are scheduled to coexist with academics and most other school activities and athletics. We are unlike many other band programs in this respect.

WILL BAND FIT INTO AN AGGRESSIVE ACADEMIC SCHEDULE?

Yes!!! We have students who are planning to enter all fields in college. The class schedule at Murrieta Valley is designed to allow band students to take a full schedule of classes and play in one or more of the bands during all four years at MVHS. All courses are full year courses. Most of our upperclassmen are enrolled in Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, dual enrollment, and other advanced courses.

WILL BAND ADVERSELY AFFECT MY GRADES?

Regardless of the activities you are involved in, good grades depend on your work ethic. If you are conscientious and organized, band or any other activity will not adversely affect your grades. (If you are not conscientious and organized, grades will be a problem even if you aren't involved in any activities.) The band schedule has been

carefully developed to work with the school's academic demands. In fact, many of the school's top scholars are in band. We average two to three times our statistical allotment of members in the top of their class, National Honor Society, and California Scholarship Federation.

“Music education opens doors that help children pass from school into the world around them - a world of work, culture, intellectual activity, and human involvement. The future of our nation depends on providing our children with a complete education that includes music.” -

Gerald Ford
President, United States of America

CAN I PLAY SPORTS OR BE IN OTHER CLUBS WHILE BEING IN BAND?

In most cases it is possible to participate in band and other activities simultaneously. However, you should avoid overloading yourself with too many activities. Your performance will tend to suffer in all of your activities if you spread yourself too thin. In order to participate in multiple activities, it is mandatory for YOU to notify both coaches / teachers that you intend on doing multiple activities. In addition, it is required that you compare schedules from both activities and discuss conflicts **before** you commit to another activity!!

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF MUSIC?

It is a known fact that **high school band students represent the top of the academic scale** in our schools. We know that band students average 62 points higher on SAT tests, which would indicate they are stronger in verbal and math scores than other members of the student body. We also know band students are students who enjoy a successful high school career, go on to college, and become leaders in our society. There is a clear link between the top achiever academically and the band student. They are on and the same!!!

According to “In the Arts: An Essential Ingredient in Education”, by J. Buchen Milley, “research shows that when arts are included in the student’s curriculum, reading, writing and math scores improve.” **Music has a profound effect on the academic success** of the student.

Band is a group effort. Members are required to shift from an I/ME perspective to a We/Us outlook. This means extending oneself beyond the normal considerations of much of our day-to-day living. **Instead of the logic being “What’s in it for me”, it becomes “What’s in it for us?”** The values of cooperation, communication, concentration, correlation, and completion come into play at each rehearsal and performance.

Band builds a sense of self-worth. Although our team (band) is like athletic teams in many ways, band is a place for everyone. Rarely is a person serving as an alternate or substitute. Everyone in the band plays a starting role!!

Music is one of the few academic disciplines that requires the student to master skills and apply them in performance. In other words, **music involves multiple forms of learning.**

Current research shows that:

- Students of music continue to outperform their nonarts peers on the SAT, according to reports by the College Entrance Examination Board. In 2006, SAT takers with coursework / experience in music performance scored 57 points higher on the verbal portion of the test and 43 points higher on the math portion than students with no coursework or experience in the arts. - *The College Board of College-Bound Senior National Report for 2006*
- Secondary students who participated in band or orchestra reported the lowest lifetime and current use of all substances (alcohol, tobacco, illicit drugs). - *Texas Commission on Drug and Alcohol Abuse Reports. Reported in Houston Chronicle, January 1998*
- Students in high-quality school music programs score higher on standardized tests compared to students in schools with deficient music education programs, regardless of the socioeconomic level of the school or school district. Students in

top-quality music programs scored 22% better in English and 20% better in math than students in deficient music programs. Students at schools with excellent music programs had higher English and math test scores across the country than students in schools with low-quality music programs. Students in all regions with lower-quality instrumental programs scored higher in English and math than students who had no music at all. - *Christopher M. Johnson and Jenny E. Memmott, Journal of Research in Music Education, 2006.*

- Nearly 100% of past winners in the prestigious Siemens Westinghouse Competition in Math, Science, and Technology (for high school students) play one or more musical instruments. This led the Siemens Foundation to host a recital at Carnegie Hall in 2004, featuring some of these young people, after which a panel of experts debated the nature of the apparent science/music link. - *The Midland Chemist (American Chemical Society) Vol. 42, No. 1, February 2005.*

HOW GOOD DO I HAVE TO BE?

ALL students are admitted into the band program regardless of skill or experience level. Yes, even beginners!! There are no auditions...**We take everyone!!**

HOW MUCH TIME DOES BAND REALLY TAKE?

All concert bands meet during the regular school day for one class period. In addition to this, it is strongly recommended that each student practice **AT LEAST 30** minutes each day. Beyond this minimum, the time involved is related to your level of involvement. The concert bands will have four to five major concerts a year.

For the marching band, the fall season will be the busiest time. From August to November, you will be involved in after-school rehearsals three times a week, in addition to football games (Fridays) and competitions (Saturdays).

Students are expected and required to attend all rehearsals. Parents need to attend the information meetings to learn about the program, its schedule and its needs.

DOES THE SCHOOL PROVIDE INSTRUMENTS?

Like middle school, the Murrieta Valley Instrumental Music Department owns and provides a limited inventory of instruments available for rental. There is a nominal cleaning and rental fee.

DO I GET P.E. CREDIT FOR BAND?

All 9th graders must take PE 9. After your freshmen year, students will get one semester of PE credit for each semester of participation in Marching Band and will not have to enroll in PE!!!

**2012-2013 Murrieta Valley High School Crimson Cadets
Parent and Student Information Meeting**

Anyone who is going to be in band next year **MUST** attend an information meeting and must also bring a parent!! All information meetings will be held in the MVHS BAND ROOM, located in the Performing Arts Building

Thursday, February 16th @ 6:30pm

or

Monday, February 27th at 6:30pm

We will be able to register you to be a part of the
2012-2013 Crimson Cadet family!!

Taking advantage of this opportunity would mean you are not behind on receiving information, getting signed up for uniform and shoe fittings as well as ensuring you are equipped with ALL of the information you will need.

Please come prepared to learn about our donation program and have the ability to make your first donation to the Crimson Cadets. The Booster Club is prepared to accept cash or check payments at this time.

**Make-Up Meeting
Monday, March 12 @ 6:30pm**

While this “make-up” meeting is available, it is recommended that you attend one of the February meeting to help spread costs out over a longer period of time.

Please RSVP to crimsoncadetsband@gmail.com
Please provide your student name, grade level and instrument

For Additional Information, Visit Our Website: