

*Patriots*

# LAKE BRANTLEY

HIGH SCHOOL

Mary Williams, Principal

991 Sand Lake Road • Altamonte Springs, Florida 32714 • 407.746.3450

January 2010

Dear Students and Parents:

It is again time for 8th grade students to plan their high school curriculum. As a member of your middle school band program, I hope you will choose to continue your band participation in high school. Entering high school and beginning to plan for graduation and your future can be overwhelming and might cause you to question whether or not you have time to be in the band, fulfill all the requirements for graduation and participate in other extracurricular activities.

The answer to all of these questions is **YES!** Part of the reason for the success of the Lake Brantley Band is the large number of gifted and honor students in our program. We also have MANY STUDENTS participating in clubs, student government and athletics. On the following pages, you will see the most frequently asked questions from most 8th grade students. Read them and then if you have any other questions, please call the L.B.H.S. Band room at 407-746-3460. You can also check out our web site at: [www.patriotband.org](http://www.patriotband.org).

The Lake Brantley Band includes over 300 members. The Band consistently receives the highest ratings possible in Marching and Concert festival evaluation assessments. With a comprehensive program which includes 4 band classes, a percussion class, two levels of music theory, jazz band, keyboarding (piano) and dance, the Lake Brantley Band program has distinguished itself as one of the finest in the state of Florida.

We continue to work and build our program. In order for us to continue our success, we invite you to become members of the Lake Brantley Band.

Sincerely,

*Cynthia Berry*

Cynthia Berry  
Director of Bands, Lake Brantley High School



SEMINOLE COUNTY  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Dr. Bill Vogel, Superintendent

Visit our web site at [www.scps.k12.fl.us](http://www.scps.k12.fl.us)

# LAKE BRANTLEY HIGH SCHOOL

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### **AUDITION REQUIREMENTS**

(Auditions are not required but are suggested for band placement)

**Major Scales :** play those which you have learned.

**Chromatic Scale :** one octave, two octaves, or full range

**Sight-reading**

Performance, tone quality, need for their instrument, and middle school director recommendation will determine which concert band class the student is placed in.

### **UNIFORM/ACCESSORIES COSTS: (approx.)**

shoes	22.00
socks	3.00
poncho	4.00
gloves	2.00
LBHS band polo shirt	17.00
shorts	10.00

students also need : music lyre and marching music flip folder

### **BAND CAMP:**

Band camp is held prior to the beginning of school to help us get a head start on the marching show. This keeps rehearsals after school begins to a minimum.

\*Date : August 9- 13, 2010

Time : Monday thru Thursday, 1:00 - 8:30 p.m. Friday 1:00 - 5:30 p.m.

Place : Lake Brantley High School

Students are required to attend. Anyone with a problem should contact Miss Berry. Band camp is vital to the marching band. We learn marching fundamentals, show music, and begin work on the half-time shows.

### **ATTENDANCE:**

A calendar is printed in July which includes all of the known performance, rehearsal, and other dates for the school year. Attendance is required at **ALL** rehearsals and performances. Band is a co-curricular activity and outside activities are part of the grade. Absence requests are treated on an individual basis. Students and parents should make sure to read and follow proper procedures.

## **LAKE BRANTLEY INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC**

Lake Brantley offers three different concert band classes, a jazz band class, a percussion class, two levels of music theory, piano (or keyboarding) classes, and dance classes for the auxiliary participants in our marching band.

The Concert Band is primarily for freshmen band members. No audition is required. This is not beginning band. This is a performing ensemble with the only prerequisite being middle school band experience. This class is usually divided into a woodwind and a brass class.

The Symphonic Band requires an audition for admission. In this performing ensemble, the literature is of intermediate to advanced difficulty. Each year a number of our talented freshmen become members of this band.

The Wind Ensemble performs music at the advanced level. Admission is by audition. Requirements are strict and the music played is quite demanding.

The Instrumental Techniques class is our percussion ensemble. During the fall, these students play the percussion in our marching band. During the 2nd semester, the students in our percussion class work on percussion skills, ensembles and with the concert bands on their concert and festival music.

Our Dance classes are chosen by audition. These students perform as dancers and with equipment such as flags, hoops, etc. in the fall half-time show. All are a part of our marching band in the fall. In the spring, they perform in indoor dance solos and ensembles.

Members of the Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Instrumental Techniques and Dance Choreography classes are required to participate in the Lake Brantley Marching Patriot Band. This group meets after school twice a week in the fall and performs at all football games and festivals. Our last official performance with this ensemble is typically the FBA Marching Festival which will be held the second weekend of November.

The Jazz Band class is a full year. This class teaches the style and techniques of jazz. In order to be in the Jazz Band class, you must be in a concert band or percussion class.

Regular Music Theory is taught within the music department. This course teaches the fundamentals of basic music reading, notation, rhythm and meter. No previous experience is required.

Advanced Music Theory is also offered. In this course students will continue their study of music theory with emphasis in composition, music history and harmonic and melodic dictation. Students enrolled will take the AP Theory exam in May.

Keyboarding or piano class is offered both semesters. Beginning piano and theory concepts are taught to students with little or no piano experience.

We hope all eligible students will seriously consider joining one of the finest band programs in the state of Florida. Freshmen membership is vital to our foundation. All are welcome!

## **STATEMENTS, CONCERNS AND QUESTIONS OF 8TH GRADE BAND STUDENTS**

### **1. I'M NOT GOOD ENOUGH TO BE IN THE HIGH SCHOOL BAND.**

The high school band program has a place for all students currently enrolled in a band program regardless of ability. Everyone is a participating member of the marching band, and then all are divided into concert bands according to ability and scheduling availability's. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to join the high school band.

### **2. I DON'T HAVE TIME TO BE IN BAND. I'M TAKING ADVANCED CLASSES.**

A large number of students in the band program at Lake Brantley High School are in gifted, honors, advanced and advanced placement classes. For three of the past five years the valedictorians and or salutatorians of the senior class have been in the band program. Your schedule can be worked out to accommodate the band and you do have time to participate. After school rehearsals during football season are twice a week. After that there is very little after school rehearsal scheduled. There are many other opportunities and activities related to the band program, but with planning, you have time to participate fully. The students with the heaviest academic load always seem to be the ones participating in the most extra activities.

### **3. I'VE BEEN IN BAND FOR THREE YEARS, I WANT TO DO SOMETHING ELSE.**

If that is your attitude, you probably should do something else. However, if you think you have done all you can do on your instrument, and learned all you can learn about music, think again. Teague and Rock Lake have outstanding band programs, but you have only scratched the surface of your potential at the end of 8th grade. High school is very different from middle school. You owe it to yourself to try it and see what it's about.

### **4. I CAN'T BE IN BAND. I'M GOING TO PLAY FOOTBALL (basketball, soccer, volleyball, swim team, baseball, track, lacrosse, cheer leading, etc.)**

With effort, communication and cooperation from all involved, it is possible to participate in band and athletics. It is up to you to discuss this with the band director and coach ahead of time. In the past few years the L.B.H.S. Band has had students participating in cheer leading, football, volleyball, softball, baseball, track, cross-country, lacrosse, crew and the swim team. This can be worked out and compromise can be achieved.

### **5. I CAN'T AFFORD TO BE IN BAND, IT COSTS A LOT OF MONEY.**

Depending on your definition of a lot - yes it does cost money to be in the band program. Entertainment costs money, cars cost money, clothes cost money etc. As with anything else you want, if you want it badly enough, you will find a way to pay for it. For the most

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part, you already own your own instrument. Uniforms are provided by the school and you provide the accessories and the dry-cleaning. The activities and other band costs are funded through band booster fund raising activities (parents and students). Numerous opportunities are provided for students to earn the necessary money for band activities rather than paying out of their own pocket. Scholarship money funded by the band parents association is available for those in need.

**6. WITH THE SCHEDULING OF SEVEN CLASSES, HOW WILL BAND WORK?**

Band will be scheduled as one of your classes. All band classes meet on a regular schedule. This allows you to take six other classes. Your band class will last for the entire year. Please realize that all students are required to take 1 fine arts credit for graduation. Band can be that credit for the first year.

**7. NINTH GRADERS HAVE TO PICK A "MAJOR" FOR HIGH SCHOOL. HOW WILL THIS EFFECT BAND?**

Every incoming 9th grade student must select a major course of study. This major extends above the courses required for graduation and should be an area of interest for the student. You can decide to major in music if you desire, but you don't have to major in music to sign up for band. Having 7 credits a year, LBHS allows 28 credit opportunities in the four years of high school. If you look at the Diploma paths of our curriculum guide, you will see that the *Scholar of Distinction* requires 18 core credits. Students may also change their "Major" each year. Check out the Freshman Focus page for the "Major" information.

**8. HOW MANY CREDITS ARE REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION?**

Lake Brantley will require 28 credits for graduation. The Florida Academic Honors diploma requires 26 credits, for those interested students. To help plan your schedule, please use the curriculum guide for important information. Because of our scheduling change, there will be adjustments to the credits required etc. As we are given more information we will inform you of any changes.

**9. JAZZ BAND AND MUSIC THEORY, ADVANCED PLACEMENT MUSIC THEORY AND PIANO (KEYBOARDING) CLASSES ARE BEING OFFERED, WHO CAN BE INVOLVED OR SELECT THESE CLASSES?**

Selection for jazz band require the signature of your band director and the enrollment in another concert band or percussion class. Jazz is an extension of the concert program and is taken by those interested as an additional class. The music theory classes are open to students interested in the theory and composition of music. Piano (keyboard classes) have no prior requirements.

# The Arts & the 7 Period Day

The schedule below shows that it is possible to earn all the necessary credits for graduation and those recommended for college and still be involved in the fine arts for all four years of high school. A recent study by the Florida Department of Education shows that students with one year of involvement in the fine arts were performed better in all areas (FCAT, SAT, etc.) and that their test scores only increased the longer they stayed involved in the fine arts.



REQUIRED FOR  
GRADUATION



RECOMMENDED  
FOR COLLEGE

GRADE COURSES	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
1	English	English	English	English
2	Math	Math	Math	Math
3	Science	Science	Science	Science
4	Elective (Academic, Vocational or Athletic)	Social Studies	Social Studies	Social Studies
5	Arts	Arts	Arts	Arts
6	Personal Fitness / P.E.	Elective (Academic, Vocational or Athletic)	Elective (Academic, Vocational or Athletic)	Elective (Academic, Vocational or Athletic)
7	World Language	World Language	World Lang. Or Elective	World Lang. Or Elective

**NOTE:** These choices are contingent on a Level 3, 4 or 5 on the 2009 FCAT Reading/Math.