

LANIER HIGH SCHOOL BANDS

Lanier High School Band Handbook 2026-2027

Lanier Bands Staff

Katy Wilson-Fields, Director of Bands (katy.wilson-fields@gcpsk12.org)

Lindsey Foster, Assistant Director of Bands (lindsey.foster@gcpsk12.org)

Celeena Corbin, Director of Percussion (lanierpercussion@gmail.com)

Detrick Tilley, Colorguard and Winterguard Instructor

Trisha Bernstein, Band Athletic Coach

Lanier High School Bands Mission Statement

The mission of the Lanier Band Program is to develop musicians using the highest standards of music education and performance, provide students with opportunities for personal growth and leadership, encourage students to become lifelong learners and supporters of the arts, and promote the place and value of music in our community.

LETTER FROM MRS. WILSON-FIELDS

WELCOME to one of the most exciting experiences in which you can be a part – THE BAND! The ultimate goal of the band program is to provide our students with a lifelong understanding and appreciation for quality music and music making. In addition, we get to use the medium of music to teach some wonderful life lessons as part of our comprehensive program here at Lanier High School.

This band handbook contains all the information that keeps us running smoothly and efficiently. Most questions can be answered by consulting THE BAND HANDBOOK or your google classroom. It is our hope that the information contained in this handbook will be both INFORMATIONAL and INSPIRATIONAL. Please read every word of The Handbook so that you are well-informed. We've included a section of important forms including one Signature Page for you to return, stating that you're familiar with the information contained in The Band Handbook.

Along with Ms. Foster and Ms. Corbin, I am excited to continue the wonderful legacy of the Lanier Band program, and build upon its 16 year history. We plan to participate in GMEA Marching Band competitions as well as District 13 and Georgia All State events. We plan on being active in the community and performing for the city of Sugar Hill, our Lanier feeder schools, and beyond. We have an amazing student leadership team in the Lanier Marching Band. We have four bands, two percussion ensembles, jazz band, indoor percussion, and award winning colorguard and winterguard programs. There is something for everyone in the Lanier Band Program!

We will provide a well-rounded, comprehensive experience for our band students. For the upcoming year, we are very excited about the marching show, titled "IMPOSSIBLE" featuring music from Gnarlz Barkley, Tears for Fears, Kate Bush, and Sia. Over the course of the school year, the bands will perform 4 concerts; Fall Concert, LGPE preview, LGPE performance, and Spring Concert. Our winterguard and indoor drumline are preparing for an awesome winter season performing and competing in GIPA and SAPA events.

This handbook is designed to answer any questions you might have concerning the program. Please read all of the information and complete the paperwork and Signature Page in the back of the handbook and return it to the band office. I am truly honored to be your band director and look forward to a great school year of making music, serving our community, and having fun along the way!

Musically Yours and HOOK 'EM HORNS!

Katy Wilson-Fields

LETTER FROM DR. CHRIS MARTIN

Dear Band Students and Parents,

As the principal of Lanier High School, I am pleased to extend my warmest congratulations to you all on your outstanding commitment to our Music Education and Fine Arts programs. You have truly shown yourselves to be a remarkable group of young adults, and I am excited to observe you participating in our music programs here at Lanier HS.

As you embark on this journey in our music programs, I encourage you to remember Lanier's motto: Learn, Lead, and Succeed. These three simple words embody the core values we strive to instill in all our students, and I do not doubt that you will carry them wherever you go.

Remember to always challenge yourself to learn new things, lead with integrity and compassion, and strive for success in all you do. Whether you are performing in stadiums, concerts, parades, or in the classroom, I am confident you will make the Lanier community proud and continue to achieve great things by performing for our community.

Thank you for joining our Music Education programs and for contributing to our harmonious environment at Lanier HS.

Sincerely,

Christopher D. Martin

Principal, Lanier High School

PARENT TESTIMONIAL

Dear Lanier Band Families - current and future,

When our oldest child joined the Lanier High School Marching Band as a color guard member, we thought it would just be another extracurricular - a way to stay active and meet new friends. We had no idea we were stepping into one of the most rewarding, challenging, and inspiring experiences of her high school years.

Marching band is more than halftime shows and competitions. It's late nights, early mornings, carpools, uniforms, instruments and equipment in the living room, and show music constantly playing in the car. But beyond all of that, it's a place where students learn what it means to be part of something bigger than themselves. It's where students grow into leaders, learn to work as a team, and develop resilience, discipline, and confidence. We watched our child transform - showing up not just as a musician, but as a teammate, a mentor, and a young adult with pride in her hard work.

A few years later, our youngest child joined the band playing percussion. It's a joy to watch her step into the same world her sister did, to see her find her place on the field, and to know she's making her own mark in this incredible community at Lanier High. She didn't need much encouragement to join. She knew that marching band would give her a sense of belonging, personal growth, and unforgettable memories.

Whether you are considering concert band, marching band, guard, or any of the ensembles, the Lanier Band program has so much to offer. It's not just about the music; it's about discovering yourself, becoming a confident young adult, and forming bonds that last long after the final show of the season.

To band students: thank you. You spend countless hours under the sun (and sometimes rain) preparing the show, playing instruments and spinning flags with a smile, and bringing music and energy to every performance. Your passion and dedication are what make this program thrive.

To parents considering getting involved: please do. Whether it's chaperoning a competition, serving at the concession stand, joining the executive board, or cheering from the stands, your support means the world. We've learned from our own journey that you'll gain just as much from the experience as your child. You'll make friends, feel part of a close-knit community, and watch your student shine in ways you never imagined.

Being part of the Lanier Band family has enriched our lives. It's more than a season. It's a community, a rhythm that stays with you. We're proud to be part of it, and we're grateful you're here, too. Here's to the new faces, the returning members, and the music that brings us all together!

With gratitude,

Pamela Conlon, LHS Band Parent

WHY BAND?

The Social-Emotional Learning Benefits of Studying Music Disclaimer: There are other activities which also offer these same benefits, like athletics and drama. However, we feel music ensembles offer more opportunities for inclusion of students of all abilities and offer more leadership opportunities for students.

- ★ <http://www.musicparentsguide.com/2015/02/17/students-really-quit-musical-instrument-parents-can-prevent/>
- ★ <https://nafme.org/social-emotional-learning-performing-arts-classroom/>
 - The following social and emotional benefits are cited from the above articles:
 - “Five Competencies in Social-Emotional Learning are: Self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship management, and responsible decision making.”
 - Helping students to understand and manage stage fright. Using the music that we perform as a vehicle to celebrate diversity, learn about other cultures and be accepting of those who may be different from us.
 - Guiding students toward behavior that is gracious and humble after a successful audition, especially when peers may be feeling disappointed about their own results.
 - Getting to know our students on a more personal level so that they feel connected, supported and valued.
 - Working with students to develop leadership skills that they can then practice as part of your ensemble (drum majors, section leaders, equipment captains, librarians, etc...)”

Why is Band important to students?

- ★ “Music helps us to better understand our motives, fears, memories, and to communicate more boldly and creatively.” - *Levitin, This Is Your Brain On Music*
- ★ Brain scans of people making music show a majority of the brain engaged. No other human activity provides the same type of neurological engagement.
- ★ Music reinforces your confidence in the ability to create, which is an essential 21st-Century skill.
- ★ Music provides an emotional outlet which promotes the release of healthy endorphins and helps to reduce stress hormones, which can be elevated in adolescents. Students often say, “Music is my escape and makes me feel good.”
- ★ Music Education programs provide unique experiences and travel opportunities.
- ★ Band promotes positive friendships and relationships lasting well beyond middle and high school years. Students truly feel a part of the Lanier Band Family.

Why is Band important to parents?

- ★ According to the College Board website, music students scored higher on the 2009 SAT. A ten year study by the President's Committee on the Arts showed that music students tested higher on all standardized tests, regardless of socioeconomic group.
- ★ 94% agree: music education is necessary for a well-rounded education - 2005 Gallup Poll
- ★ Music education enhances cooperative learning, instills disciplined work habits, and correlates with gains in standardized tests.
- ★ Joining the Lanier Band Family promotes a sense of community and positive social interactions.
- ★ Arts-centered schools have fewer dropouts, higher attendance, better team players, an increased love of learning, greater student dignity, enhanced creativity, and they produce citizens better prepared for the workplace of tomorrow.

Music Education Georgia Performance Standards

A. Skills and Techniques/Performance

- ★ Singing, alone and with others, through a varied repertoire of music
- ★ Performing on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music
- ★ Reading and notating music

B. Creation

- ★ Improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments
- ★ Composing and arranging music within specified guidelines

C. Critical Analysis/Investigate

- ★ Listening to, analyzing, and describing music
- ★ Evaluating music and music performances

D. Cultural and Historical Context

- ★ Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts
- ★ Understanding music in relation to history and culture

LHS BAND PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

Concert Band (Beginning Band, 2 combined classes)

Year long course. Concert Band curriculum focuses on teaching young musicians the discipline of their instrument and increasing their skill level and confidence. Most incoming 9th grade wind players should be registered for Concert Band. This group performs 3 concerts a year.

Symphonic Band (Intermediate Band)

Year long course. This group is made up of more intermediate musicians at LHS. Membership is determined by an audition. This group performs 3 concerts a year.

Symphonic Winds (Advanced Band)

Year long course. This group is made up of more advanced musicians at LHS. Membership is determined by an audition. This group performs 3 concerts a year.

Wind Ensemble (Mastery Band)

Year long course. The most advanced instrumental performance ensemble at LHS. This group is made up of the most advanced musicians at LHS. Membership is determined by an audition. This group performs 3 concerts a year.

Percussion Ensemble (Beginning/Intermediate Instrumental Ensemble)

Year long course taught primarily by Ms. Corbin. All percussion students are required to enroll in this ensemble class. This group includes all of the Longhorn Marching Band drumline students and the 'concert-only' percussionists. Percussionists perform with the Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Symphonic Winds, and Wind Ensemble, and separately as a percussion ensemble. They perform 4 concerts a year. During special occasions, the drumline will be performing in the cafeteria for the student body during the lunch periods.

Longhorn Jazz Band (after school)

Extra curricular ensemble. The Longhorn Jazz Band rehearsals typically begin at the beginning of November with an audition process for placement. Longhorn Jazz Band uses a traditional instrumentation with members playing saxophone, trumpet, trombone, guitar, bass, and drum set. There will be opportunities for non-traditional instruments to learn improvisation throughout the jazz band season. Longhorn Jazz Band performs up to 5 concerts a year, and at the end of the school year, they typically perform with the percussion and jazz ensembles at the Jazz and Percussion Concert. The season runs from November - May.

Longhorn Marching Band

The Longhorn Marching Band is often used to describe the entire band program. However, the LMB is the marching band component of the band program. It is an extra curricular activity that occurs after school. Wind and Percussion players in the Longhorn Marching Band must be enrolled in band class. The LMB season runs from July-November.

Lanier Color Guard

The Lanier Color Guard is the visual component to the marching band. It includes all auxiliary and visual aspects including flags, rifles, and dance. Membership in the Color Guard is through a spring audition process. The Lanier Color Guard students are

considered LMB members. They are held to the same performance, behavior, and attendance standards.

Lanier Winter Guard

The Lanier Winter Guard is an indoor colorguard sport and performance art. It includes all auxiliary and visual aspects including flags, rifles, and dance. Membership in Winterguard is through a fall audition process. Winterguard is instructed by Mr. Detrick Tilley.

LHS BAND CONCERTS

Concert Etiquette

Concert Etiquette is an important skill for music students and families. It allows others to enjoy their child's music without distraction! We also record the concerts, so please help us get the best recording possible.

Please do the following:

- ★ Turn off phone or set it to vibrate.
- ★ Make sure the shutter sound and flash are off for any photos.
- ★ Stay quiet so everyone can listen to each piece.
- ★ Stay in your seat while the band is playing. If you need to leave, wait until the piece is over.
- ★ Keep small children with you at all times and take them outside if they need a break.
- ★ Wait to clap until after the conductor lowers their hands. Silence is part of the music!
- ★ Attend the entire concert out of respect for the efforts and dedication of the students involved.

We deeply appreciate your attendance at our concerts! You, the audience, play such an important role at concerts. As we encourage our student performers to use proper concert etiquette, please remember how important it is for parents, friends, adults, and older siblings to model that behavior. Thank you for positively reinforcing appropriate concert etiquette so everyone may enjoy the performance.

Student Concert Attendance

The ONLY excused absences from concerts include:

- ★ Excused absence from school due to field trip or extracurricular activity (with *advance notice* of over a month)
- ★ Illness before or on the day of a concert (doctor's note required)
- ★ Family emergency (note from parent or guardian required)

Because of the collaborative nature of performances, scheduled concerts are required

(not optional.) Students should note conflicts at the **beginning of the year** and compare against athletic, extracurricular, and other scheduled activities. In the case where reconciling the conflict is challenging, students should contact the directors *immediately*. Students who miss a performance will receive a 0% for a Test/Concert grade. Students with *excused* absences may make this up individually with the directors through a pass-off of the music that would have been performed. Students must seek the directors out to schedule the pass-off makeup.

SCHOOL OWNED INSTRUMENTS

Each student who uses a school-owned instrument is completely responsible for the care of that instrument or piece of equipment. Lost or damaged items shall be replaced or repaired at the student's expense. Before school-owned instruments are checked out, students must fill out the school-owned instrument information form located in their band google classroom. Students must return any item checked out at the directors' request.

- ★ Instruments owned by Gwinnett County Public Schools include those that are not normally purchased by individuals (i.e., marching instruments, tubas, bass clarinets, and other expensive "specialty" type instruments). These instruments are purchased through the Lanier Band Boosters or with Gwinnett County funds.
- ★ These instruments are signed out to individual students (or may be shared depending on the number of students vs. instruments owned) for use during the year.
- ★ School instruments require regular maintenance and upkeep. Funds for the maintenance of instruments are currently provided through Lanier Band Boosters, but students are responsible for maintaining their instruments and supplying things like reeds, valve oil, swabs, etc. for daily use.
- ★ "Accidental" or negligent damage or loss of any LHS instrument is the responsibility of the individual student/parent who has checked out the instrument.
- ★ **BEFORE ANY SCHOOL INSTRUMENT IS TAKEN TO THE REPAIR SHOP, it must be cleared by the director.** If the instrument is taken in for repairs without the knowledge of the director, then the family whose name appears on the check-out form will be responsible for paying the full cost of the repair.

INSTRUMENT REPAIR

The Lanier Band Program has partnered with North Georgia Band to provide instrument repair for our band program and students. Please visit their website at www.northgeorgiaband.com.

If a student owned or school owned instrument needs a repair, the student can schedule a repair at school and North Georgia Band will come and pick it up for repair. If a student is interested in purchasing an instrument, North Georgia Band is also a great resource.

Please see Mrs. Wilson-Fields or Ms. Foster before you decide on the purchase of an instrument upgrade. We will be able to give you some direction and options before committing to these types of instruments.

LANIER BAND CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Drinking alcoholic beverages and taking non-prescription drugs will not be tolerated and will be cause for immediate dismissal.
2. Smoking, vaping, dipping, and chewing of tobacco or tobacco products will not be tolerated.
3. Absolutely no hazing or initiation of any student in any form will be tolerated.
4. All members are expected to communicate respectfully and professionally at all times. The use of profanity, racial slurs, hate speech, or any language that demeans, harasses, or discriminates against others will not be tolerated. We are committed to fostering an inclusive and supportive environment where everyone feels safe, heard, and valued.
5. All school rules will be strictly enforced. School administration will deal with any infraction of these rules. School policy shall have priority over band policy in the event of a policy conflict.
6. Absences from regularly scheduled rehearsals/events will not be tolerated and may result in the loss of your position. Please refer to the Attendance Policy for details.
7. Insubordination directed toward staff or chaperones will not be tolerated.
8. Students are required to remain with the band after games and will be dismissed as a group.
9. Courtesy is expected at all times. When assigned to a particular group or bus, you are expected to stay with that group until the chaperone or the director/student leadership releases you.
10. Young adults do not damage property or equipment. As Lanier High School Band members, you reflect not only the values you learn at Lanier, but in the community as well.
11. Students should not leave their personal items in the bandroom, other than instruments. The bandroom is not a locker to keep shoes, books, clothing, and other such items. All instruments are to be properly stored in the instrument room when not in use. It is not wise to leave instruments in hallways, other classrooms, the bus, etc., or in the bandroom for long periods of time.
12. The reputation of the Lanier Band will be built on quality of character, community involvement, and musicianship.
13. Violation of any of these rules may result in removal from the program, at the discretion of the directors.

You are representing Lanier High School and Sugar Hill, GA.

STUDENT EQUIPMENT NEEDS

The following lists are items that students are required to have for band class.

The following lists are items that students are required to have for band class. You may also purchase additional recommended items for your instrument (upgraded mouthpiece, tuner/metronome, additional sticks and mallets, etc.)

FLUTE STUDENTS

- ★ Flute Cleaning Rod
- ★ Cleaning Cloth
- ★ Pencils
- ★ Black binder - ½ or 1 inch

OBOE + BASSOON STUDENTS

- ★ Oboe or Bassoon Reeds (see directors for recommendation)
- ★ Silk Oboe Swab
- ★ Small water container for reeds
- ★ Pencils
- ★ Black binder - ½ or 1 inch

CLARINET/SAXOPHONE STUDENTS

- ★ Silk Swab (Except bari sax)
- ★ Vandoren Reeds (strength 3 and higher only)
- ★ Reed Case
- ★ Pencils
- ★ Black binder - ½ or 1 inch

FRENCH HORN STUDENTS

- ★ Rotor Oil
- ★ Tuning Slide Grease
- ★ Pencils
- ★ Black binder - ½ or 1 inch

TRUMPET + BARITONE + TUBA STUDENTS

- ★ Valve Oil (recommended brands Al Cass or Hetmans)
- ★ Tuning Slide Grease
- ★ Pencils
- ★ Black binder - ½ or 1 inch

TROMBONE STUDENTS

- ★ Slide-O-Mix Trombone Lubrication System
- ★ Small water spray bottle
- ★ Pencils
- ★ Black binder - ½ or 1 inch

PERCUSSION STUDENTS

- ★ Black binder - ½ or 1 inch
- ★ Pencils
- ★ 12 Inch Double Sided Practice Pad (Vic Firth or Evans RealFeel) **(NOT 6in PAD)**
- ★ Concert Drum Sticks (IP Lalo Davila or Vic Firth 2B wood tip, no nylon)
- ★ Marimba Mallets (IP240 Medium Birch or IP3106 Medium Hard Rattan)
- ★ Stick Bag (Ex. IP Fundamental or Steve Weiss Basic)

CONCERT UNIFORMS

All formal performances require a basic black concert “uniform.” Concert attire is part of the student performance grade. For formal concerts, all Lanier High School students will wear the “concert attire” discussed in class through our uniform vendor. Students are responsible for purchasing concert attire through the Lanier Band. We will place an order through our concert uniform company during the Fall Semester. Every student must be wearing the concert uniform purchased through the band (or chorus).

HONORS + AWARDS

Throughout the year, band members have a variety of ways to earn individual recognition from within the school, the county and even the state. The following list focuses on awards that are given from within the Lanier High School Band Program.

Spring Band Awards Reception: The Lanier Band will hold an annual awards reception in the spring. The purpose of the reception is to reflect upon the year’s accomplishments, to honor those who have realized special achievements, to recognize graduating seniors for their years of service to the band, and to announce the next year’s marching show theme. Awards, student superlatives, and participation certificates are awarded at the reception.

We strive to make the reception a special evening for everyone and the format changes slightly from year to year. Students vote on some awards, while other awards are given based on set criteria.

LANIER BAND BOOSTERS ASSOCIATION

The Lanier Band Boosters Association (LBBA) exists to serve the Lanier High School Bands through educational, financial, and social means. The association supports marching band, concert band, jazz band, indoor percussion, winterguard, and other various ensembles. Its mission is carried out by organizing fundraising events, managing contributions and student accounts, and fostering strong communication among students, parents, band staff, and school officials. The LBBA promotes community involvement, maintains transparency in financial practices, and aims to minimize costs for families, all while presenting a positive public image and upholding its status as a tax-exempt organization.

ALL BAND PARENTS ARE CONSIDERED BAND BOOSTERS!

2026-2027 LBBA Board of Directors

Contact information can be found on lanierlonghornband.com

Co-Presidents: Varessa Butts and Pam Conlon

Vice President-Concessions: Kelly Foss

Vice President-Fundraising: Zeke Mayo

Vice President-Events: Cait Montoya

Vice President-Sponsorships: Geneva McDonald

Secretary: Krista Kunkle

Co-Treasurers: Cally Johnson and Randi Quizon

Chief Operating Officer: Ryan Butts

Communications Officer: Teresa Harrison

Band Directors: Katy Wilson-Fields and Lindsey Foster

2026-2027 Fundraising Opportunities

Double Good Popcorn

RaiseRight

Gas South Arena

Textathon

Charleston Wrap

COMMUNITY PARENTS

Community parents are your go-to person for answers to any questions, advice, support, fellowship, and anything else you might need as a band parent. They should be reaching out to you soon if they have not already done so. Please email lanierbandhelp@gmail.com if you do not receive communication by August 14th.

Concert Only - Tomika Singh

Clarinets + Flutes - Ana Tiborghezcszi

Saxes - Jennefer Gaines

High Brass - Amy and Jack Kelly

Low Brass - Kelly Foss

Percussion Liaison - Carey Harrison

Guard Liaison - John Judd

LETTERMAN JACKET QUALIFICATIONS

Letterman jackets are a testament of hard work and dedication. It is a symbol of scholarly, musical, and service based achievement. A student's eligibility is determined by the following qualifications:

Wind and Percussion Student Requirements:

- ★ Student must have participated in band class for a full school year
- ★ Student must maintain all A's in band class
- ★ Student must participate in the Longhorn Marching Band
- ★ Zero performances missed (unexcused) including games, competitions, concerts
- ★ Zero unexcused absences from band rehearsal
- ★ Student must complete a BLAST PROJECT (Band Service Project) or 12 hours of documented music related community service

Colorguard Student Requirements:

- ★ Student must have participated in colorguard for a full marching season
- ★ Must be in good academic standing in 5 out of 7 classes.
- ★ Zero performances missed (unexcused) including games, competitions, concerts
- ★ Zero unexcused absences from band/color guard rehearsal
- ★ Student must complete a BLAST PROJECT (Band Service Project) or 12 hours of documented music related/colorguard related community service

LANIER BAND COMMUNICATION

WEBSITE, BOOSTERHUB NEWSLETTERS, "BAND" APP

Our best means of communication is email via Boosterhub. The Boosterhub newsletters are constantly updated with the most current information with regards to ALL aspects of our program. Our weekly Director's Newsletter is an informative email from the directors. The LBBA executive board will also send out E-Blasts with notices and financial statements once a month or as necessary. Please check the website for our FULL calendar, and note any conflicts at the beginning of the year. Do not wait for the newsletter to come out to add things to your personal calendar!

The Band app is our newest form of communication and will include quick reminders from the directors.

SOCIAL MEDIA

The Lanier Band program has accounts on Facebook (Lanier High School Band) and Instagram (@Lanierhighband @lanierbandspercussion @lanierguard). We encourage you to follow us on all of these social media platforms. Not only do we post reminders and information on these platforms, but it is a fun way to connect with the Lanier Band Family!

ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES

In order for all students to have a successful experience, each member should attend all rehearsals and performances. One student's absence affects more than one student. This organization can only be successful when it acts as a cohesive team. In intricate musical preparation, one single absence can hold back the entire organization. Every member is critical to our maximum achievement. With proper planning, conflicts CAN be avoided. **PLEASE FILL OUT AN ABSENCE REQUEST FORM FOR ALL ABSENCES** - schedule conflicts, illnesses, emergencies, etc. This form can be found in the band room, the website, or on Google Classroom.

ABSENCES AND TARDIES WILL BE DEALT WITH IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER:

TARDY	For tardies due to approved school activities, see the director one week in advance to avoid penalization. Otherwise, time-for-time will be enforced.
EXCUSED ABSENCE	An absence will be counted as excused if approval is given well in advance and/or the absence falls under school system guidelines for excused absences (see GCPS procedures below). No penalty will occur if this criteria is met. *In order to obtain an excused absence, the following criteria must be met by student/parent: • Director must be notified more than a week prior when possible. In the unfortunate event of an illness or emergency, please contact the band office as soon as possible. • ABSENCE REQUEST FORM must be filled out online. • Director must approve request.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCE	If arrangements are made in advance and an unavoidable conflict surfaces, a student is allowed one (1) unexcused absence from a rehearsal without penalty: An unexcused absence from a performance or a second unexcused absence from rehearsal will result in immediate loss of lettering eligibility and possible removal from the performing ensemble. <u>Unarranged, unexcused absences, or “no shows,” will result in the loss of the ability to earn a letter and possible termination from extra-curricular activities.</u>
CONFLICTS WITH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES	If the conflict is approved by the director before the missed rehearsal, then the absence will be counted as excused. If the director is not given at least a week’s notice of the absence, then the unapproved absence will be counted as unexcused.
UNARRANGED, UNEXCUSED ABSENCE	No shows will result in the loss of ability to earn a letter and possible termination from extra-curricular activities.

INDIVIDUAL NEEDS WILL BE ADDRESSED AS THEY OCCUR. THIS SYSTEM IS SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION BY THE DIRECTOR.

ATTENDANCE - GCPS PROCEDURES

State Board of Education Rule 160-5-1-.10 defines the following as excused absences:

- ★ Personal illness or attendance in school endangers a student’s health or the health of others. (i) Local boards of education may request students to present appropriate medical documentation to school for the purpose of validating that the absence is an excused absence
- ★ A serious illness or death in the student’s immediate family necessitating absence from school. (i) In the event of a serious illness in a student's immediate family, local boards of education may request students to present appropriate medical documentation regarding the family member upon return to school for the purpose of validating that the absence is an excused absence.
- ★ A court order or an order by a government agency, including pre-induction physical examinations for service in the armed forces, mandating absence from school.
- ★ Observing religious holidays, necessitating absence from school.

- ★ Conditions rendering attendance impossible or hazardous to student health or safety. (For Gwinnett County Public Schools, the closure of schools for hazardous conditions may only be made by the Superintendent for the purposes of excused absences.)
- ★ A period not to exceed one day is allowed at the discretion of the local unit of administration for registering to vote or voting in a public election.
- ★ Local boards of education shall count students present when they are serving as pages for the Georgia General Assembly.
- ★ Public school students visiting with a parent or legal guardian prior to or during leave from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting as a member of the armed forces of the United States or the National Guard are allowed five excused absences per school year.
- ★ Students who are in a foster home or otherwise in the foster care system under the Division of Family and Children Services of the Department of Human Services will be counted present for any day, portion of a day, or days missed from school when attending court proceedings related to that student's foster care.
- ★ A student who participates in the Student Teen Election Participant (STEP) program will be counted as present and given full credit for the school day during which he or she served in the STEP program.
- ★ A student who participates in an activity or program sponsored by 4-H.

If a student is in school, he/she is expected at rehearsal that day!

The mere filing of a request does not guarantee an excused absence.

Phone calls must be followed up by the appropriate paperwork.

All follow-up is the responsibility of the student/parent.



2026-2027 FORMS

STUDENT NAME: _____

All band families must complete the following forms by
August 14, 2026.

MEDIA RELEASE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

As the parent/guardian of the student named in this form, I hereby consent to the participation in interviews, the use of quotes, and the taking of photographs and/or video of the student named above by the Lanier Band Program for the purpose of social media or promotional material.

I also grant the right to edit, use, and reuse said products for nonprofit purposes including use in print, on the internet, and all other forms of media. I also hereby release the Gwinnett County Public School System and its agents and employees from all claims, demands, and liabilities whatsoever in connection with the above.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

GWINNETT COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION RELEASE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

School functions and trips for the current school year include away football games, away competitions, clinics, LGPE festivals, service projects, concerts, and short trips.

I, _____, the parent/guardian of child, _____, hereby consent to my child's participation in school trips listed above.

I further acknowledge and agree to the following:

- The Gwinnett County Board of Education, Its members, employees, and agents assume no responsibility for personal injuries and/or property damage which might be suffered by my child, his property, or the person or property of others during said function/trip, and hereby expressly release said Board of Education, its members, employees, and agents from any and all liability relating to such injuries of damages.
- The Gwinnett County Board of Education's policies on Student Conduct and Discipline shall be in full force and effect as to all student participants in this function/trip at all times during the same, and any violation of any rules contained therein by my child may result in appropriate disciplinary measures includes suspension and expulsion as provided in said policies.
- The Gwinnett County Board of Education, its members, employees, and agents are not responsible for any expenses related to this school function/trip except as otherwise specifically agreed to them in writing.
- The Gwinnett County Board of Education may require as a condition of my child's participation in this school function/trip that satisfactory evidence be submitted indicating that my child has sufficient medical insurance in effect during the period of the said function/trip.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

BAND PARTICIPATION AND FINANCIAL AGREEMENT

I agree to meet the time and monetary commitments for the Lanier High School Band Program for the current school year as outlined in the Lanier Band Handbook and on Booster hub, and I understand that all program fees and payments are non-refundable. I agree to make any financial constraints known to the directors immediately should they arise so they have the opportunity to assist.

Student Signature: _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date _____

LANIER BAND STUDENT AND PARENT HANDBOOK ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have read and understand the entire contents of the 2026-27 Band Handbook and agree to adhere to the conduct within. I understand that it is also posted online/Google Classroom for my reference.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____