

Lincoln East Color Guard



2017 Handbook & Audition Packet

Lincoln East High School Color Guard

Information & Requirements

Welcome to Lincoln East Color Guard Auditions! You are each unique in your own way, but to make a complete picture, you must come together as a team. The Lincoln East High School Band is “One Band.” This means that regardless of grade or instrument, the entire band functions as one unit.

Staff

Tom Thorpe, Director of Bands

Lisabeth Wissink, Assistant Director

Paul Kenney, Assistant Director

Jessica Riley, Color Guard Instructor

Auditions

All students interested in being on the 2017 fall team must audition. The tryout routine will consist of a basic flag and footwork routine. The tryouts and rehearsals will be held immediately after school and auditions are closed to the public. These tryouts and rehearsals will be held May 1-5, from 3-4:30. A nonpartisan panel will score the tryouts in small groups of 2-4 students per group. Auditions will be based on 5 categories:

- Fundamentals
- Poise
- Showmanship
- Natural Ability
- Choreographed Routine

Each category is worth 5 points, making the audition worth 25 points. Each student auditioning must receive a 15 point minimum to qualify. A copy of the scorecard is included in this packet. Audition results will be posted within 1 week from the auditions.

Status

All spots on the team must be auditioned for and all former members must re-audition. Every individual that auditions will either make the team or they will not. In some cases, members may be assigned as an “alternate.” Alternates have all the same privileges and responsibilities as the rest of the team, they must attend all rehearsals, learn the routines, and receive a grade; they just do not have their own marching spot. Solos, duets, and small groups are determined based on skill, attitude, effort, and history of attendance and punctuality.

Enrollment/Band Class:

It must be understood that all members must be enrolled in one of the following music ensembles for the entire first semester: marching/concert band (first period band), choir, or orchestra. All members must be enrolled in marching band as a first period class during first quarter. Attendance is checked daily and at each performance. Additional grades are based on memory checks and daily readiness (i.e. coordinate sheets, proper marching footwear, equipment.) Attendance for performances is not only based on punctuality, but also based on the correct attire and equipment. School counselors can assist with scheduling issues, but please see them promptly. During marching band season, class begins daily at 7:30 am, with a 7:15 am start time on Wednesdays.

Rehearsals & Competitions

You are making a commitment to be part of a team. Attendance at all rehearsals and all performances is essential. Unexcused absences are not allowed; this includes social activities, non-medical appointments (unless academic-related, which are addressed on a case-by-case basis), or work. All tardies and absences will follow the band and school policy, as addressed in the Lincoln East Band Handbook and Lincoln East High School Student Handbook. Punctuality is required; members are encouraged to arrive with plenty of time prior to the start of rehearsal to gather equipment, change shoes, socialize, etc. All wardrobe items must not interfere with your equipment/choreography. Sectional rehearsals will begin the second week of school and will be held from 3:30-4:30 on Wednesdays on the practice field. When flag football begins, sectionals will be held next to the tennis courts. These sectionals are required, with the exception of other school activities and practices, medical appointments/emergencies, or approved by Jessica prior to sectional rehearsal. Work and social activities are not approved absences and may affect the member's performance status and future leadership or solo opportunities.

Participation in other activities is encouraged, however, since guard is a team sport, it must also be a high priority. If any rehearsals are missed it is required to make them up, before the next rehearsal, with either Jessica or a member of the leadership team. If you have conflicts, speak with Jessica.

Outside Rehearsals

The best way for a member to grow is thru individual practice. Each member must practice outside of organized rehearsals. While it may seem as though we rehearse a

lot, we do not have time to individually work with every member and every repetition. Jessica and leadership team members are available to work with members individually, if individual help is needed. We strive for individual responsibility to help the student learn several things: time management, responsibility, competition, and achievement. It's important to understand that the phrase "we are only as strong as our weakest link" applies here, the team relies on each member to know what they should be doing and perform at a competition level every time. Please keep in mind that members of the entire band receive various grades for having their show music memorized. Guard is no exception, they must have their show routines memorized. Failure to have memorized routines results in not only a failing grade in the grade book, but also results in not being able to perform at the next show. We provide many opportunities to have "make up memory checks," which will change the letter grade and allow the member to perform. However, the only way to completely memorize the show is thru attendance and practice at all summer rehearsals, early morning band rehearsals, sectionals, AND at-home practice. Much like most other high school classes, band has homework as well and that is practice.

Exercise & Health

Color guard is a physical sport. We often times wear form-fitting uniforms and require a tremendous amount of physical stamina. Different activities that would be beneficial to members to increase their endurance and flexibility include dance classes, Zumba, jazzercise, yoga, daily stretching, walking, running, and exercises with or without weights. Making sure that proper nutrition and hydration is received is imperative for

mental and physical preparedness and will help avoid issues such as fatigue, dizziness, and viruses. There is also a possibility of students hitting themselves with their equipment; usually this is minor, while occasionally it can be more serious. At any point a student is hit, it is their responsibility to communicate with their parents and the band staff. The decision of what action needs to happen is left up to the parents.

Expectations

The greatest single factor that will determine the group's success is attitude. Members are expected to come to rehearsal with the right attitude of sincerity, concentration, and dedication to working hard to achieve success with the team. Members are asked to make a commitment to the program through their time and effort. Each member is expected to commit to the rehearsals and performance schedule. Perfection is not expected, but a strong work ethic and the desire to be better is; it is expected that each member asks for help when it is needed and works hard to improve. Each member needs to practice at a 100% effort level and always participate with the group.

All guard members are expected to adhere to the policies and rules of the Lincoln East Band Handbook and the Lincoln East High School Handbook. Any student that does not comply with the policies may be dismissed from the group and/or have disciplinary consequences as deemed fit by the staff or school administration.

Profanity, slander, and negativity have no place in our group. Cell phones and MP3 players are distractions to rehearsals, so they must be turned off (or on silent) and put away during work time.

At Lincoln East, we treat each member, officer, staff, and volunteer with respect.

Undermining anyone will not be tolerated, and in extreme situations, will lead to alternate status or dismissal from the group.

Please communicate any problems with any fellow members with the band staff. The staff is sympathetic to situations and will appropriately handle them, as necessary, for the benefit of the group.

Band/Guard Fees & Financial Responsibilities:

A fee schedule is provided in this packet. These amounts vary from year to year, the prices listed on this sheet are just an estimate based on prior years. This is the cost for only the fall marching band season and all payments are non-refundable.

Equipment

Each member will be assigned practice and performance equipment.

Practice equipment can be taken home at any point during the season to practice, however, it is up to the member to have it at the next rehearsal. Due to the limited amount of equipment we have, there may not be any extra equipment available if equipment is forgotten at home.

Performance equipment cannot be taken home, unless approved and signed out with Jessica or Mr. Thorpe, and only under certain conditions. Performance equipment must be returned within 5 days of checking it out.

Members will be charged for any missing or unreturned equipment at the end of the season; this fee varies based on the equipment, but typically costs about \$10/pole and \$30/flag silk.

Communication

Tom Thorpe: tthorpe@lps.org 402-436-1302

Jessica Riley: jessica.riley.8313@gmail.com 402-314-0328

The Lincoln East High School Band website is www.goband.org. This site should be visited often, as it is one of the best ways to stay up to date with what is happening with the band and to obtain detailed information. There is a calendar available there as well. The booster's send out weekly emails with lots of pertinent information, so this is great for both parents and members to sign up to receive. The band program has a facebook page that you can "like" where photos and other information throughout the year is posted, search for "Lincoln East Band."

The color guard instructor and leadership team members also send out regular emails regarding guard related information and reminders. This is used for both parents and members. Please provide us with a current and regularly checked email address.

Band Boosters

East High Band Boosters is a cooperative effort of parents, alumni, volunteers and the directors and assist in many aspects of the band program. Parents are encouraged to attend the Booster meetings, volunteer, and be a part of their child's band/guard experience.

Fee Schedule

This is a basic listing of what each member is required to purchase for the fall season and are all approximate costs. Exact amounts and due dates will be announced at a later date. Everything listed below is REQUIRED for each member.

Uniform	~\$100-150	Early fall (Mid Aug-early Sept)
Jacket	~\$80	Early fall (Early-mid Sept)
Gloves	~\$10	Early fall (Mid-late Aug)
Shoes	~\$35	Early fall (Mid-late Aug)
Tights/Socks, based on needs of uniform, cost varies		Early fall (Mid Aug-early Sept)
Game Day T-shirt	~\$10	Early fall (Mid-late Aug)
Basic Makeup (liquid foundation, eyeliner, mascara)		
Uniform Makeup & Hair Accessories	~\$10	Early fall (Mid Aug-Early Sept)
Equipment Bag	~\$20	Early fall (Mid-late Aug)
Band Polo	~\$15-20	Due early summer
Band Shorts	~\$15-20	Due early summer
Sister Gifts	~\$20	Throughout late fall (October)

The last item is not REQUIRED but it is strongly ENCOURAGED for all Band members:

Band Family Contribution Fee	~\$100	Due early summer
------------------------------	--------	------------------

Summer& Fall Band Dates 2017

Color Guard Mini-Clinic:

Mon & Tues, June 19-20	10th-12th grade guard	9 am-12 pm, 1-4 pm
Wed, June 21	9 th grade guard	9 am-12 pm, 1-4 pm

Monday Music Days:

Mon, July 17	Full Band, split rehearsals	Guard: 1-4 pm
--------------	-----------------------------	---------------

Band Camp:

Mon, July 24	Leadership Day	9 am-12 pm, 1-4 pm
Tues & Wed, July 25-26	10-12 Percussion Camp	9 am-12 pm, 1-4 pm
Thurs, July 27	Rookie Day	9 am-12 pm, 1-4 pm
Fri, July 28	Full Band	9 am-12 pm, 1-4 pm
Mon-Thur July 31-Aug 3	Full Band	9 am-12 pm, 1-4 pm, 6-8:30 pm
Fri Aug 4	Full Band	9 am-12 pm, Exhibition @ 8 pm

Football Schedule:

Thurs, Aug 31	7:00 pm	Seacrest Field	
Fri, Sept 8	8:00 pm	Seacrest Field	**Away Game**
Fri, Sept 15	8:00 pm	Seacrest Field	
Thurs, Sept 21	7:00 pm	Seacrest Field	*Homecoming*
Fri, Oct 6	4:30 pm	Seacrest Field	*8 th Grade Night*
Fri, Oct 13	8:00 pm	Seacrest Field	*Senior Night*

Contests:

Sat, Sept 30	1-7 pm	Capital City Championships	Seacrest Field
Sat, Oct 7	All Day	Harvest of Harmony	Grand Island
Sat, Oct 14	1-7 pm	LPS Invitational	Seacrest Field
Sat, Oct 21	1-9 pm	NSBA State Marching Festival	Seacrest Field

Lincoln East Color Guard Agreement*

The success of this program is built around numerous rehearsals, performances, and sacrifice from the performers, parents, and staff. In order to continue to increase this program's standard of excellence, student signatures are required to audition, implying that the student supports, understands, and agrees to follow this handbook.

1. I understand that it will take sacrifices to be a part of this competition group; all rehearsals, sectionals, and performances are necessary to attend and a previous history of unexcused absences could result in a lack of membership.
2. I understand that I am responsible for the payments of the band/guard fees.
3. I understand that I am representing the group at all times, even when not with the group, and that unacceptable behavior and disrespect is not allowed.
4. I understand that not all individuals who audition will make the team and that the team may have alternate members. At any point, an alternate may have a performing position or a performing member may lose their performance eligibility due to poor work ethic, attitude, or attendance. In addition, I understand that not all performers will perform in every segment of the show.
5. I understand that individual practice outside of rehearsals is necessary and that performance spots and solos is based on skills, improvement, and work ethic.

Student Signature

Date

*The Student Agreement Form, Parent Acceptance Form, and Information Form are all due prior to auditions. If a student has not turned them in at auditions or earlier, they are not eligible to make the team.

Lincoln East Color Guard Handbook Acceptance Form*

I, as a parent/guardian of a student auditioning for the color guard, have reviewed the handbook provided to my child at tryouts, including the agreement form for my child to sign. I have read each portion and agree to the procedures listed. I also understand that, if my child makes the team, there are expectations, time commitments, and responsibilities of my son or daughter as listed in the handbook. I agree to fully support my student as a team member of the Lincoln East High School Color Guard.

I, _____, parent/guardian of
_____ have read the above statement, in addition to
the handbook, and agree to the guidelines and expectations as listed.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

*The Student Agreement Form, Parent Acceptance Form, and Information Form are all due prior to auditions. If a student has not turned them in at auditions or earlier, they are not eligible to make the team.

Information Form

Student Name: _____

Grade (fall '17): _____ T-shirt Size: _____

2017 2nd Quarter Class: Concert Band Choir Orchestra

Student Email: _____

Student Cell: _____ Texting? _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Parent/Guardian Email(s): _____

Parent/Guardian Cell(s)/Home Phone(s): _____

*The Student Agreement Form, Parent Acceptance Form, and Information Form are all due prior to auditions. If a student has not turned them in at auditions or earlier, they are not eligible to make the team.

Lincoln East Color Guard Auditions 2017

Applicant # _____

Key:

Superior (S), 5 points = Skill level highly exceeds audition expectations

Excellent (E), 4 points = Room to improve, but slightly exceeds expectations

Good (G), 3 points = Needs more work, but meets audition expectations

Fair (F), 2 points = Struggling, inconsistent, only partially prepared for audition

Poor (P), 1 point = Unprepared, cannot perform required tasks for audition

Fundamentals **S/5** **E/4** **G/3** **F/2** **P/1**

(Technique, Precision, Sharp vs Flowy, Mastery of Basics)

Poise **S/5** **E/4** **G/3** **F/2** **P/1**

(Proper Posture, Confidence, Recovery)

Showmanship **S/5** **E/4** **G/3** **F/2** **P/1**

(Smiling, Enjoyable to Watch, Enthusiastic, "Performing" vs Performing)

Natural Ability **S/5** **E/4** **G/3** **F/2** **P/1**

(Internal Beat, Learning Speed)

Choreography **S/5** **E/4** **G/3** **F/2** **P/1**

(Memory & Knowledge of Routine, Staying on Count)

Total Points: _____/25

Must receive 15/25 to qualify