



THE NORMAL MARCHING BAND

Washington High School Marching Band Competition

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2026

What to pack

Parents who are interested in riding the bus, chaperoning, helping with the crew, etc. should sign up at normalmb.org.

Be sure to eat a healthy breakfast/lunch before rehearsal and drink plenty of water.

Remember your white socks, white gloves, white marching shoes, and appropriate garments for under your uniform. If you plan to shower after rehearsal, bring your shower accessories.

Bring a sack dinner to eat before we depart.

Uniform appearance

The band is evaluated based on standards of uniformity and professionalism. This includes appropriate attire and grooming: members' hair must be long enough that it can be put up in the shako in a high dance-style bun or short enough that it does not extend over the eyebrows or ears in the front or touch the collar in the back. Haircuts encouraged! Any artificial hair coloring treatment must result in a naturally-occurring hair color. Students should be free of facial hair or be clean-shaven. Jewelry, makeup, and visible fingernail polish are not permitted during performances. Remember to bring hair spray, bobby pins, etc.

Shower and shave (with shampoo!) on the morning of the competition or the night before.

Itinerary

before

Be sure to eat healthy and drink plenty of water on the day of the event. Eat lunch before rehearsal.

11:30 AM

Rehearsal at NCWHS

~3:30 PM

Rehearsal ends, pack/load trucks (everyone is responsible for making sure that their equipment makes it to the show—either on the bus or to the parent crew who is loading.)

- Drum Line and Front Ensemble, take instruments to truck right away for loading
- Polish brass instruments (sousaphones do this first and load horns on truck)
- Showers available if you choose, prepare hair, color guard makeup
- Eat sack dinner, drink water, relax

4:30 PM

Load buses, depart for Washington Community High School. Bring your water with you.

~5:30 PM

Arrive at Washington Community HS - unload, eat dinner at the concession stand, change into uniform, prepare for the show.

7:00 PM

In uniform by the buses/trucks, ready for inspection and physical warm up

8:08 PM

At gate

8:28 PM

NMB Performance – Go, Team, Go!

Following our performance, we will watch the final two bands as a group. Please look for the directors and follow instructions regarding where to regroup.

9:20 PM

Presentation of Awards

~11:15 PM

Arrive at NCWHS

Additional Information

Final information not yet available at the time of this posting. Concessions will be available for spectators in the stadium, and spectators will be charged for admission. The school address is 115 Bondurant Street, Washington.

Washington Competition Schedule

12:36 PM	Class A – Herscher
12:50 PM	Class A – Monmouth-Roseville
1:04 PM	Class A – Farmington Central
1:18 PM	Class A – Rock Falls
1:32 PM	Class B – Canton
1:46 PM	Class B – Richwoods
2:00 PM	Class B – Eureka
2:14 PM	Class B – Metamora
2:28 PM	Break
2:38 PM	Class C – United Township
2:52 PM	Class C – Joliet West
3:06 PM	Class C – East Peoria
3:20 PM	Class C – Illinois Valley Central
3:34 PM	Class D – Streator
3:48 PM	Class D – Tri-Valley
4:02 PM	Class D – Sherrard
4:16 PM	Class D – El Paso-Gridley
4:30 PM	Washington (exhibition performance) Awards for Classes A, B, C, D and Adjudicators' Dinner Break
6:56 PM	Class E – Kewanee
7:10 PM	Class E – La Salle-Peru
7:24 PM	Class E – Dunlap
7:38 PM	Class E – Limestone Community
7:52 PM	Break
8:00 PM	Class F – Champaign Central
8:14 PM	Class F – Bloomington
8:28 PM	Class F – The Normal Marching Band
8:42 PM	Class G – Galesburg
8:56 PM	Class G – Morton
9:10 PM	Exhibition – Washington Community
9:15 PM	Awards for Classes E, F, G

A Note from the NMB Directors

We are excited about all of the hard work that has gone into preparing the show for the first competition! It will be great to share the show with others and to see what they have been working on. Remember to represent the NMB at your very best, both on and off the field. Be sure to thank the volunteers for their hard work and be respectful of them – we couldn't do this without them! Lastly, encourage friends, neighbors, and family to come out to Washington and cheer us on—it always helps to have an audience that loves us! Have a great day, work hard, and perform well!