



# BAND CAMP BULLETIN NO. 1

ANN ARBOR PIONEER HIGH SCHOOL  
BAND CAMP AT INTERLOCHEN  
AUGUST 5–11, 2014  
DAVID LEACH, DIRECTOR OF BANDS  
BAND OFFICE: 734-996-3210



## FROM THE PODIUM

### WELCOME TO THE PIONEER BAND FAMILY!

We are excited to start your student on their Pioneer High School musical journey. Pioneer Band Camp is the BEST way for your incoming 9th grader to get to know 200+ other Pioneer students from every grade with like interests, work ethic, etc. all in an environment that is accepting, nurturing, and supportive.

We look forward to getting to know you and working with your child. If ever a concern arises, please don't hesitate to call me at Pioneer High School.

**David A. Leach**  
Director of Bands

## WHAT IS PIONEER BAND CAMP?



*Band Camp Sunday Concert in Kresge Auditorium with the 200-member Pioneer Band Camp Band*

Our 67th Annual Band Camp will be held at the world

famous Interlochen Arts Camp (IAC) at Interlochen Center for the Arts. Any present or prospective member of the Pioneer Bands is encouraged and welcome to attend. Band Camp is an amazing opportunity for incoming 9th grade students to jump start their transition to high school and the Pioneer band program. Band Camp introduces both concert and marching

fundamentals in a fun and friendly environment. In one short week, incoming 9 graders prepare for a Sunday concert as part of the "Pioneer Band Camp Band" alongside upper classmen. Students also drill marching fundamentals; even though most 9<sup>th</sup> grade students will not be a part of the Pioneer Marching Band their first

year in the Pioneer Bands, this opportunity is invaluable in building their spirit of ensemble work and in preparing them for their marching years ahead as they progress through their high school band experiences.

Camp space is limited to 200 beds. A student's spring audition results will determine membership in the 2014-15 Pioneer Symphony and Concert Bands, whose members are *expected* to attend Pioneer Band Camp. The remaining camp spaces are made available to Pioneer Varsity Band students on a first-come, first-served basis as determined by date of application and by instrumentation needs. For our returning members, Band Camp becomes a highly anticipated and exciting beginning to every school year. Lifelong friendships are forged with new members, leadership responsibilities increase as positions formerly held by last year's seniors are taken by new members, traditions are observed (senior skit, etc.), and the Pioneer Bands become a UNIT.

On August 5th, the musical ensembles from Pioneer High School will head north for their Interlochen experience. Pioneer Band Campers spend their time refining musical skills and brushing up on their high steps and glide steps. Campers rehearse in small sectionals (by instrument or instrument families) and rehearse and perform as one band, giving younger students an opportunity to experience a very high level of musicianship and technique simply by sitting next to a senior Symphony Band member in rehearsal, while upper classmen learn leadership skills and responsibility. Rehearsals occur throughout the IAC campus, with the marching rehearsals at the Braeside tennis courts. The Pioneer Band Camp Week culminates in **Band Camp Sunday**. This is our Sunday afternoon concert in beautiful Kresge Auditorium and the marching demonstration to which family and friends are encouraged to come and enjoy. There is

*(Continued on page 2)*



Home Sweet Home

also time for socializing at Band Camp! Most nights have dances, games, and other activities to enjoy including the famous (or infamous) Senior Skit.

The Pioneer Bands always have many freshmen attending the camp along with the upper classmen. Pioneer Band Camp is a wonderful experience for all students. Band Camp provides essential concert musicianship skills, as well as opportunities to meet directors and Pioneer band alumni, learn the basics of life at Pioneer, rehearse concert music and drill marching fundamentals. As students progress through their years in the Pioneer Bands, the Band Camp experience enables the students to form lasting relationships with fellow students in every grade before school begins, thus making their transition into and

through high school easy. When a freshman band camper walks into Pioneer High School on the first day of school, he or she already knows 199 other students, many of whom will share classes and schedules. The band camp experience provides a *smaller learning community* for our students. It's a wonderful way to ease into a high school like Pioneer.

While Band Camp is not expected of Varsity Band students, it is *highly* encouraged. Band Camp is a core part of the Pioneer Band Program, as well as an ideal way for all band students to make new friends each and every year.

Freshman students spend their week at Band Camp living in a cabin with an equal number of sophomores, juniors and seniors from all Pioneer bands. By the time students return to Ann Arbor and school begins, it is unlikely that any freshman band student who attended Pioneer Band Camp will walk into any Pioneer High School classroom and not see a student he or she has already met, and right away freshman students feel at home both in the band program and at Pioneer High School.

Band Camp is also when Pioneer Drum Major auditions occur. The Assistant Drum Major position is open to students the summer after their sophomore year. The Assistant Drum Major marches as the Drum Major for Concert Band during his or her Junior year, and automatically assumes the role of Senior Pioneer Symphony Band Drum Major during Senior year. Drum Major auditions are held on final Saturday, with results announced on Band Camp Sunday. Drum Major responsibilities and audition requirements are available from Mr. Leach.



Standing At Attention

## REGISTRATION DEADLINE

**Band Camp Registration** takes place during the spring of the school year. Current Pioneer students receive their Enrollment Forms from Mr. Leach or Ms. Waring in the classroom. Incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade students receive their Enrollment Forms when they audition for Mr. Leach at their middle school, and Enrollment Forms are also available at the Incoming 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation meeting. Forms and deposits can be returned to the directors in the classroom or mailed to the address provided on the form. **In order to notify Interlochen of our expected enrollment, MAY 12, 2014 is band camp application deadline for both returning students and incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade students.** Only a very limited number of openings for Band Camp may be available after the registration deadlines. Registration for band camp is closed when our maximum enrollment is achieved or at the discretion of the band director.

**BAND CAMP REGISTRATION** occurs during the spring. In August, the annual **BAND REGISTRATION DAY** occurs on the Monday of Band Camp Week — **MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 2014** and is **required of all band students regardless of whether they are participating in band camp.** At Band Registration students go through several stations, which will ensure they are prepared both for the school year and for camp. Some will pick up a school instrument; the school will provide large instruments and special marching instruments. Completed forms are also turned in.

**FEES \$375.00 PER STUDENT**, which covers transportation to and from Interlochen, a Band Camp t-shirt, counselors, lodging, meals, and activities for the week. Make checks payable to "Pioneer Band Association", and mail, with completed registration and health forms, to the address on the forms.



## BAND CAMP FACULTY

Pioneer High School Director of Bands and Performing Arts Department Chairman David A. Leach is the Director of Pioneer Band Camp. Camp faculty is drawn from the Ann Arbor Public Schools instrumental music staff, and each year Mr. Leach brings an army of assistants and counselors to teach at Band Camp at the ratio of 6 students per adult. Our well-qualified college-age and above counselors are graduates of Pioneer High School, either current music majors or participants in college ensembles. Our Band Alumni Counselors are instructors for sectional rehearsals and other musical activities. Parents can be assured that our Pioneer Bands students are given personal attention and that they will have a lot of fun at Band Camp.

## EQUIPMENT

**CAMP CONCERT UNIFORM:** White blouses/shirts and black skirts/pants with black shoes are to be worn for the Sunday concert presentation — no jeans, shorts or t-shirts or tennis shoes, please. Ladies may substitute pants for the skirt. **Wondering what else to bring?** A complete packing list is available in **Band Camp Bulletin No. 2**. Plan to pack your everyday clothes and don't forget plenty of socks, tennis shoes (for marching), sweatshirts, sweater or fleece jacket, pants, swimsuit, raincoat and a flashlight. Pack a sleeping bag, sheets, pillow, two bath towels, washcloths, soap, comb & shampoo, toothbrush & paste, toiletries & hygiene products, and a drinking cup. Bring clothespins (for holding music to your music stand) and a pencil for rehearsals. Bring your musical instruments (BOTH concert AND marching), and a folding music stand. **ALL ITEMS SHOULD BE MARKED WITH YOUR NAME.** If you wish, bring money for the Interlochen Store — gifts and snacks are available. Remember, you need to bring \$10 for lunch for the bus trip TO camp AND \$10 for lunch for the bus trip home!



*Band Camp Marching Demonstration  
Instruments UP*

## BAND CAMP SUNDAY CONCERT PRESENTATION & MARCHING DEMONSTRATION

On **Sunday, August 10, 2014**, parents and families are cordially invited to a **concert** of the Pioneer High School Band, Choir and Orchestra at **1:30 p.m. in Kresge Auditorium**, concluding with a Pioneer marching demonstration at the Braeside Tennis Courts which should end by 5:00 p.m. Parents and guests see for themselves what our band students have been drilling all week long in preparation for concert and marching seasons, and will enjoy performances by the Drumline and the Flags as well as the "Alumni 40" when our more "seasoned" bandspeople attempt to get those knees up! The Pioneer Band Association table will be open on the campus grounds just outside the Kresge Auditorium starting at 12:30 p.m. with information for parents. Parents and families are invited to come to Band Camp Sunday and look around the camp grounds, visit the PBA Welcome Table, and meet other families as we celebrate the start of a great year ahead!

## CAMP REGULATIONS

All Pioneer High School rules and consequences are followed at Band Camp. Pioneer students have always used good judgment at camp. Just to be on the safe side, please read the following:

**"All bands are guests of the Interlochen Arts Camp and are expected to abide by the rules of the camp. No student is allowed to smoke during his/her residence at the camp because of fire hazard, nor to leave his/her cabin after taps. The right is reserved to send home any student who fails to conform to rules and accept supervision without refund of any fees."**

### **THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES ARE SPECIFICALLY PROHIBITED AT BAND CAMP:**

- 1. HAZING OF ANY SORT**
- 2. SMOKING OF ANY SUBSTANCE**
- 3. CONSUMPTION OF DRUGS OR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES**
- 4. LEAVING THE INTERLOCHEN ARTS CAMP GROUNDS FOR ANY REASON WITHOUT PERMISSION**



## HEALTH & MEDICAL SERVICES

Parents must complete the **HEALTH INFORMATION FORM** for each student attending band camp. ***IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE HEALTH INFORMATION FORM BE FILLED OUT COMPLETELY AND SIGNED BY PARENT/GUARDIAN.*** The Interlochen Arts Camp health clinic is available to our students. Traverse City is only 20 minutes away, and all emergency services are available at the Traverse City Munson Medical Center.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

There are a limited number of **need-based** scholarships for Band Camp provided by the Pioneer Band Association. Please contact Mr. Leach for more information.

## TRANSPORTATION

Charter bus service is provided to and from band camp with stops for lunch. Students attending camp are expected and encouraged to ride the bus. Families who need to make exception to this should contact Mr. Leach **in writing** with their band camp enrollment form to request making their own arrangements for transportation to camp.

## PRACTICE & PHYSICAL CONDITIONING

The Pioneer Bands play a demanding and varied repertoire. Band Members are encouraged to maintain a daily practice regimen to sharpen their technical and musical skills. Scales, flexibility drills, and etudes all will increase your ability as an instrumentalist. Band members who practice with intention on a regular basis will succeed. Band members should complete at least 30 minutes of instrumental practice each and every night.

Marching is a very demanding physical activity, and your success and ability to enjoy the season, both at Band Camp and throughout the fall, depends in a very large way on your pre-camp physical condition. To prepare for the physically demanding marching season, it is important to sustain a daily exercise program throughout the summer. Many members find running, biking, swimming, and climbing stairs very helpful.



*Physical preparation for Band Camp Sunday  
Marching Demonstration*

## CONTACT INFORMATION FOR INTERLOCHEN ARTS CAMP

### Website:

<http://www.interlochen.org>

### Main Switchboard:

(231) 276-7200

Fax: (231) 276-6321

### Street Address (for overnight deliveries)

Interlochen Center for the Arts  
4000 Highway M-137 Interlochen,  
MI 49643

### Mailing Address:

Interlochen Center for the Arts  
PO Box 199  
Interlochen, MI 49643-0199



*Band Camp culminates in a successful transition to the concert season!*

