

# **Lincoln East Color Guard**



**2020 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, regardless of grade or instrument, functions as one unit.

## Staff

Tom Thorpe, Director of Bands

Nicole Shively, Assistant Director

Daniel Layher, Assistant Director

Jessica Riley, Color Guard Instructor

## Auditions

All students interested in being on the 2020 fall team must audition. Due to COVID-19, students are given 2 options for how they can audition.

### 1. In person auditions

- a. The tryout routine will consist of basic flag and dance work.
- b. The tryouts and rehearsals are closed to the public.
- c. These tryouts and rehearsals will be held July 14-15 from 8 am-11 pm and 12:30-2 pm.
- d. Those auditioning will be video recorded for review by the band staff to determine the final color guard roster.

### 2. Virtual auditions

- a. Individuals choosing not to attend the above auditions/unable to attend may audition virtually.
- b. Virtual auditions must be submitted by July 15 at 5 pm.
- c. Those wishing to audition virtual should email Mrs Riley at [jriley@lps.org](mailto:jriley@lps.org) ASAP to receive instructions for virtual auditions.

All audition videos will be judged on the following categories: execution of basic fundamentals, poise and showmanship, natural ability, and memory of presented routine. Attendance and attitude history of returning members will also be taken into account for the 2020 roster.

### **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. Alternates will perform from the sideline during football games, but not during competitions, although they will still be required to attend and support their teammates. If an absence is known in advance for another member, or another member loses performance eligibility, an alternate may be asked to learn marching spots to fill in. 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 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 on Monday, Tuesday, and Friday and 7:15 am on Wednesdays. Thursdays begin with sectional rehearsal at 7 am.**

### **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 for upperclassmen will begin the second week of school and will be held at 7 am on Thursday mornings in one of the school gyms. Attendance and punctuality at these sectionals are required. Freshmen guard sectionals will be held during 1 or 2 class rehearsals each week. Extensive rehearsal and performance absences and tardies may affect the member's membership, performance status, and future leadership or solo opportunities.

If any rehearsals are missed it is required to make them up, before the next rehearsal, with a member of the leadership team. If you have conflicts, come talk to us.

### **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.

The leadership team is available to work with members individually, if 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, morning band rehearsals, sectionals, AND at-home practice. Much like most other 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.

\*Note of importance: an essential part of being a member of color guard, and band in general, is uniformity. An important aspect of a guard line is often times a dramatic look that members wouldn't necessarily wear daily, including bold/heavy makeup, extreme hairstyles, and eccentric costumes. It is expected that all members understand this aspect of our team and can commit to this detail and a positive attitude regarding it.

### **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. Payments will be made thru the student's synergy account.

### **Equipment**

Each member will be assigned practice and performance equipment. Due to additional healthy and safety precautions, members can NOT share equipment this year. All members are expected to take their practice equipment home following each rehearsal and returned to the next rehearsal, if possible. If transportation is an issue, a limited amount of storage space will be available. This will be the policy until further notice. There will be no extra equipment available if equipment is not returned for the next rehearsal.

Performance equipment cannot be taken home, unless approved and signed out with an instructor, and only under certain conditions. Performance equipment must be returned within 5 days of checking it out. Because equipment can not be shared, it is imperative that all members have their own equipment bag to store their equipment. 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: jriley@lps.org

The Lincoln East High School Band website is [www.lincolneastband.org](http://www.lincolneastband.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."

## **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 will be announced later. Everything listed below is REQUIRED for each member and how they will be purchased.

Freshman Uniform, including shoes**	~\$25-50
Upperclassmen Uniform(s)* and **	~\$80-100
Jacket, new members*	~\$80
Gloves, new members**	~\$10
Shoes, all upperclassmen**	~\$35
Basic Makeup (liquid foundation, eyeliner, mascara)**	Cost varies
Uniform Makeup & Hair Accessories*	~\$10
Equipment Bag**	~\$20
Band/Guard Family Contribution Fee	~\$100
Band Polo*	~\$15-20
Band Shorts*	~\$15-20
Sister Gifts**	~\$20

\*Jessica/boosters/LPS will order for the group--will be paid thru Synergy

\*\*Purchased individually

All other items, such as t-shirts and sweatshirts, that they group chooses to purchase are optional.

## Summer & Fall Band Dates 2019

\*Mandatory Parent/Student Meeting      May 14                      8 pm on Zoom

### Band Camp:

July 14-15	8-11, 12:30-2	Percussion, Guard, Drum Major Tryouts
July 24	9-12	Leadership Training
July 27	2-3:15	All Guard-New procedures
July 28	8-11	Freshmen Guard
	1-3:15	10-12 Guard
July 29	1-3:15	10-12 Guard
July 30-31	1-3:15	All Guard
August 3-4	8-11	10-12 Guard
	1-2:30	Freshmen Guard

### Football Schedule:

Thursday, Sept 3	7:00 pm	Seacrest Field	
Friday, Sept 11	8:00 pm	Seacrest Field	
Thursday, Sept 24	7:00 pm	Seacrest Field	**Homecoming**
Friday, Oct 9	4:30 pm	Seacrest Field	
Friday, Oct 23	8:00 pm	Seacrest Field	

### Contests:

Sat, Oct 10	LINKS Marching Competition	Lincoln High
Sat, Oct 17	LPS Marching Festival	Seacrest Field
Sat, Oct 24	NSBA State Marching	Seacrest Field

### Other Performances:

Sat, Nov 8	Veterans Day Parade	Downtown Lincoln
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# 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.

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Student Signature

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Date

\*\*This form must be signed and emailed to [jriley@lps.org](mailto:jriley@lps.org) BEFORE auditioning\*\*

# 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

\*\*This form must be signed and emailed to [jriley@lps.org](mailto:jriley@lps.org) BEFORE auditioning\*\*

## Information Form\*

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade (fall '20): \_\_\_\_\_

2020 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Class:      Concert Band      Choir      Orchestra

Student Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Texting? \_\_\_\_\_

\*Cell number will be given to guard leadership team members to communicate\*

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. Please email forms to [jriley@lps.org](mailto:jriley@lps.org)



# Lincoln East Color Guard Auditions 2020

Applicant Name/#: \_\_\_\_\_

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**

**Notes regarding previous membership status:**