



THE BAND OF BLUE



Greetings:

We hope you are having a safe and enjoyable summer! **Rookies who did not attend the first summer drill session must attend the session on Tuesday, July 27th from 9:00am - 11:00am. All rookies are encouraged to attend even if you came to the first session.** The Band fee for this year is **\$150.00**. This fee is used to help pay for the marching show and additional instructors we may use during Band Camp. We split this up into 3 easy payments. The first payment (\$50) was due at the end of school. **If you have not paid this fee, you need to NOW!** Please see our bookkeeper in the front office at CCHS to pay for this. An additional \$50.00 will be due by the beginning of Band Camp (August 2) and a third \$50.00 payment after school begins by (Sept 3). This fee also covers the cost of your band T-shirt, drinks for ballgames and contests, and a family membership in the Band of Blue Booster Club. **If you don't have your fees in order, you will not be allowed to participate in social affairs with the band (dances, cookouts, etc...) and possibly performances. We need everyone to please take care of your fees on time.**

You need to reserve ALL Friday nights beginning August 27th through the end of football season including the play-offs. Each band member will need a pair of khaki shorts for the first few games. Please make plans to purchase or borrow a pair while there are some still in stores. You need white lace up band shoes with white soles and black lace up shoes with black soles. We can order shoes for you if you have not done this. Guard members will be told more information about your uniform and shoes at Pre-Camp.

Start practicing your instrument. If you would like to come by and check out a school owned instrument, call us first and set up a time for you to pick one up. If your instrument needs to be repaired, please have this done before camp starts. Mr. Phillips from Pecknel Music (843-766-7660) in Charleston can help you with this. You need to have your instrument the first day of practice. Brass players should be sure their tuning slides will move. Start getting in good physical shape. You need to get outdoors and get used to the summer climate. We will be working on lining the field and need help the week of July 19 -23.

Colorguard Pre-Camp will be Monday July 26th thru Friday, July 30th (Times for Colorguard are 9AM-Noon & 1:00-4:00pm.) The guard will go start at CCHS daily and then move to the National Guard Armory in the afternoons unless told otherwise.

All Percussion Pre-Camp will start on Wednesday, July 28th and run thru Friday July 30th (Percussion will practice from 9 am - Noon & 1:00-4:00 pm at CCHS.)

Full Band Practice (Everybody) begins Monday, August 2nd at 8:00am. We will take a break at mid morning. We will try and have water available, but please feel free to bring you own labeled water bottle. If you have not brought in your Gatorade Instant Powder we need 2 bottles of dry powder now for the parents to keep you hydrated and we also need a 24 pack of bottled water for the season. Lunch break will be from 11:30 - 1:00. You may leave for lunch with your parents' permission or you may bring your lunch and eat it here. Afternoon rehearsals will be from 1:00 to 3:30 and are generally held inside. These times are subject to adjustments. Different sections may need to plan on staying after 3:30 on select days according to which section needs more practice. Drumline and Pit need to be prepared to stay until 4:30 if needed. **This will be our schedule until school begins.** Once school starts we will practice on Monday nights (6-9) and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from 1:30-4:30.

We are very excited about this year's show, ***Abraham Lincoln: A Just and Lasting Peace***. We have been busy planning the 2010 Band of Blue Production. The marching show will feature music arranged by Bill Locklear. Mr. Bob Buckner will write our drill. Mr. Buckner wrote for the Band of Blue from 1983-2004 and did our show last year. He is the director of bands at Western Carolina. The show uses themes from composer Alan Menken and has a medley of songs from the Lincoln era. Through great music and drill, we will tell a story. Our show will be very fast paced and very different! We may ask some of you to do things differently this year. We already have all of the music and drill ready for you! We will once again be competing in the 4A class and look forward to the challenge ahead. We must look to the future and the future is bright. We won two grand championships last year and were runner ups at Lower State. I was most proud of you for gaining top six status again in Class 4A. I challenge you to dig deep and work hard and the **BAND OF BLUE** will continue to be one of the finest bands in South Carolina! Our goal is to reclaim the Lower State and State Championship. We are all on the same team wanting the same goal. The Band of Blue is a big family! **I urge you to get your parents involved with our booster club.** Together we will produce a show that all of friends and family can be proud of! You can count on your staff to do everything it takes to give you a competitive show. We need to count on you to do your very best. "Ability is what you're capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do. Attitude determines how well you do it." Give us your best and we will have a great year and keep the Band of Blue as one of the finest band programs in the country!

Musically,

Tom Finigan, Director of Bands

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