



Statesboro High School Bands

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June 15, 2009

Band Students and Parents:

What an exciting time this is for all of us. We've said goodbye to the old SHS facility, and hello to a new one. As we type this letter to you from our new band facility, crews are hard at work breaking down and removing our old building from campus. It's a bittersweet moment – we're all excited to see our new beginnings, but sad to say goodbye to a place we've called home for so long.

There is a lot of history and tradition at Statesboro High School – particularly within our band program. As we take our first steps into a new year and a new facility, I think it's very important that we all "remember where we've come from." My band director once told me that "you can't know where you're going unless you understand where you've been." When we're finished getting settled, you'll find that our new school contains things that make even our new place feel like home.

If you're receiving this letter, you either registered for a band class or left word with us that you were interested in marching with the Blue Devil Marching Band this season. Enclosed you'll find information about camp, a calendar with dates and times for performances and rehearsals, and information on everything we can think of. If we've left something out, don't worry...your section leader will be contacting you soon to answer any questions you may have. If you're like us (impatient), and need to know now, feel free to contact us via E-Mail. We will do everything we can to answer your questions and work with you.

Right now, go ahead and do this...

1 – Read this packet.

2 – Somewhere on your packet, you will find a label with your name, section, and phone number. If ANY of this information is incorrect, please call or E-Mail Mr. Ferguson and give the corrected information. We need corrections ASAP!!!

We're looking forward to a GREAT season! Our competition show is going to be loud, proud, and full of fun for everyone! You'll have access to your music before camp, so feel free to listen and get practicing.

See you at camp!!

Joe Ferguson
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Auxiliaries Coordinator
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2009 Blue Devil Marching Band Information

Band Camp:

ALL CAMPS are held at SHS this year.

We work outside at Womack Field in the morning, and inside SHS in the afternoon.

Percussion / Auxiliary Camp :

When : July 6 – 10 : 8AM – 12AM ; 1PM – 4PM

Who : All Percussion / Drum Line / Pit / Guard A / Guard B / Majorette

Rookie Camp :

When : July 13 – 14 : 8AM – 12AM

Who : If this is your first year in Marching Band, you must be here!

Band Camp :

When : July 15 – 17 : 8AM – 12AM ; 1PM – 4PM

July 20 – 23 : 8AM – 12AM ; 1PM – 4PM

Who : EVERYONE!!

What to wear:

- Shorts
- A light-colored, comfortable shirt
- Socks / Tennis Shoes

What NOT to wear:

- Long pants / jeans
- Dark colors (these soak up the sun and heat)
- Sandals / Boots
- Layers – the more layers, the more heat / sweat your body retains!

Students should bring the following with them to camp EACH DAY:

- Instrument / Flag / Batons
- Pencil
- Music – Flip Folder / Band Folder
- A thermos / Water bottle filled with ICE WATER
- Sunscreen
- 1 Fabric Softener / Dryer Sheet (repels gnats better than bug sprays!)
- A bag lunch

We will have first aid supplies on site in the event of minor injuries. We stock over-the-counter medications for pain, stomach ailments, and allergies – however, we cannot administer them to your child until we have a health form on file. Please be sure to list everything requested on the form, as this allows us to care for you in the event of an emergency.

Band Fees:

Fees are \$150 – payable to SHS; due by Friday, August 7.

We offer a \$50 discount to any student whose parent / adult family members are willing to work 2 shifts in football concessions. Pay \$100 by the first day of school, sign up for shifts at the parent meeting on July 21, and work your shifts to receive the discount!

Band Fees cover costs associated with your participation in the Blue Devil Marching Band: including transportation, uniforms, show T-Shirt, camp staff, music, drill, routines, and even most of your FOOD at games and contests!

Band fees are a school fee this year – failing to pay them results in your being put on the debts list. You'll be unable to get report cards or a certificate of attendance, check out materials, graduate, or register for other activities at the school if you fail to pay your fees.

If you anticipate a hardship, you MUST talk to Mr. Ferguson BEFORE fees are due. There are forms you'll need to have filled out and signed by a parent. SHS will attempt to work with you to make band affordable for you. ALL FEES must be paid, or arrangements made by Friday, August 7.

Other Items you'll need to purchase:

You will also need to purchase a few “consumable” items. Vendors will come to sell these items during camp. Be prepared to pay for these items – you can't march without them!!

Winds / Percussion:

Band Shoes - \$30

Gloves (2 pair) - \$5

Lyre (winds only) - \$5 - \$10

Guard A / B:

Gloves - \$15

Shoes - \$30

Your section may wish to purchase a “section shirt” this season. See your section leader for details on price, etc.

The school will issue all wind players a flip folder to hold stands music at camp. These folders are numbered – if you lose it, you will be billed for its replacement cost (\$10).

Those of you who need a school-owned instrument: you will receive these at camp.

Music

Music will be made available ONLINE at the end of June. To access music, you'll need a login and password at our website, www.statesboroband.com.

Your login is "Firstname.Lastname" (ex. JoeFerguson)

Your Password is your Student ID# (unless you changed your password).

Once you login for the first time, you can change your password to anything you wish. We can RESET passwords, but we cannot retrieve them if you forget.

You'll be able to print out and listen to A LOT of our music, including Stands Tunes. If you follow the direction on the page, you can download *Scorch*, a program that will allow you to see and play along with the music if you wish. It's possible to practice and learn your music before you even show up to camp!!!

Message Board: Your login also grants you access to our online message board (think Facebook, but not as fancy). Keep in mind that ANYTHING you write on the board can be seen by everyone involved with the SHS Band – including staff! Think of it this way – if you wouldn't say it in front of a teacher, don't say it on the message board. You can be written up and disciplined for inappropriate behavior on the board.

CHARMS

DO THIS BEFORE COMING TO CAMP!!! (after July 1, but before camp starts)

1. Go to our website (www.statesboroband.com)
2. Click the CHARMS button at the top right.
3. Login with your student ID#
4. Click Student Info
5. Verify that everything is correct
6. Update anything that is incorrect or missing

CHARMS is your link to the inner workings of our band program. You can check any balance you owe, see trip payments, track fundraising, see receipts, see what equipment is checked out to you, look at a calendar, etc.

We use CHARMS as our database of information. If your address and phone number change, change it in CHARMS so that we know how to get in touch with you!

I'll be showing you how to use CHARMS at camp and during the parent meeting on July 21.

CHARMS will be available beginning July 1.