



THE BAND OF BLUE



Dear Band of Blue member:

We hope you are having a safe and enjoyable summer! **All Rookies need to attend the drill session Thursday, July 21st from 9:00am - 11:00am. Percussion and Guard rookies will do this session too.** The Band fee for this year is **\$200.00**. This fee is used to help pay for the costs for marching season. We split this up into 4 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 (July 25), your third \$50 payment is due August 15 (start of school) and your fourth \$50 payment by Labor Day (Sept 12). This fee covers the cleaning of your uniform too. The fee also covers the cost of your band T-shirt, compression shirt and shorts, gloves and other undergarments, drinks for ballgames and contests. **Please have your fees in order, you will not be allowed to participate in social affairs with the band, sign ups and possibly performances. Please take care of your fees on time!**

You need to reserve ALL Friday nights beginning August 26th through the end of football season including the play-offs. Each band member will need a pair of khaki shorts/belt for the first few games. Please make plans to purchase or borrow a pair. You need white and black band shoes. Rookies need to order these thru **Artimus Concepts online at <https://colletoncounty2016.itemorder.com/sale>** You can still order shoes if you have not done this. Band Shoes are \$77 for both or \$33.50 for a pair. Guard members will be told more information about your uniform and shoes. Start practicing your instrument. If you would like to come by and check out a school owned instrument, call us first (893-6026) 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 (843-870-4894) in Monks Corner 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 12-14.

ALL Percussion Pre-Camp will start Monday, July 18th and go thru Friday, July 22nd. Color Guard Pre-Camp will also start Monday, July 18th in the auxiliary gym and go thru Friday, July 22nd. Times for Guard and Percussion and Front Ensemble are from 9AM-Noon 1PM to 5PM.

Full Band Practice (for everybody) begins Monday, July 25th at 8:00am. Full Band Camp is from July 25-29 and August 1-5 & August 8. Meet on the band field in the parking lot for body warm up first. We will take breaks at mid morning. We will have water available, but please feel free to bring you own labeled water bottle. Please park in the student lot near the school. Don't park in the lot directly behind the band tower. We will use the parking lot field for teaching drill and fundamentals early in the morning. We need 2 BIG cans of Gatorade powder now for the parents to keep you hydrated. We also need at least 2-24 packs of bottled water for the season. Lunch break will be from 11:30-1:00. You may leave for lunch with your parent's permission or you may bring your lunch and eat it here. The District will have some free lunches available for the band during camp. Afternoon rehearsals will be from 1:00 to 3:30 and later for the guard and percussion. These are generally held inside. These times are subject to adjustments. Different sections may need to plan on staying until 5PM on select days according to which section needs more practice. Drumline and Pit need to be prepared to stay later if needed. Guard may have to rehearse in the afternoons either at CCHS or at the National Guard Armory. This will be our schedule until August 5th. Once school starts we will practice on Monday nights (6-9) and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from 1:30-4:30. We also rehearse on Friday's when we don't have a game.

We are very excited about this year's show, **"SUBLIMINAL"** The marching show will feature music written by Steve Vento. Mr. Vento wrote this show in 2015 for the Blue Springs (MO) High School Band. **"SUBLIMINAL"** the show is about mind control and how television has an effect on the population with the push and pulls of kids watching TV...is it good or is it bad? Is television giving us messages other than the show we are watching or the commercials we watch? There are 4 parts to the show. The opener has music from Elegy by John Barnes Chance, Prokofiev's Symphony No. 5 and Igor Stravinsky's Rite of Spring. The ballad is the music from Hymn of Axiom by Vienna Teng, and the drum solo has themes from TV commercials and Stravinsky's Rite of Spring. The closer has themes from the Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra by Benjamin Britten. This show will be very different and very innovative! We are exploring new and challenging music and drill.

We are performing in the 2017 New Orleans Endymion Mardi Gras Parade February 22-26, 2017. The total for the trip will be \$650. We will need \$125 deposit for this trip due by end of July. We will have fund raisers to help you raise your money. You will need to make \$75 deposits each month either paid or fundraised. This will be a great experience! We have a great show planned for this year. We will challenge you with great music and demanding drill. We may have alternates this year. You may start out doubled at camp. Battle and work hard and you will earn a spot. We will have all of the music and drill ready for you after July 15th. We were in the top 12 at 4A State last year and we want to move up and WIN! We have a great team and awesome parents. Now, I challenge you to dig deep and give your best. We have a strong tradition and history of being one of the finest bands in South Carolina! Our goal is to do your best and go after the Lower State and State Championship Titles.

The Band of Blue is a big family! We really care about all of our members. Together we will produce a great 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. **Get your parents involved with our booster club! Our first meeting is Monday, August 8 at 6:00pm at CCHS. If you have not received an email from me this summer with music and mp3 files please email me at TFinigan@lowcountry.com.** Enjoy the rest of your summer and let's get ready for another great year for our BAND OF BLUE!!

Musically,

Tom Finigan
Director of Bands

COLLETON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL "BAND OF BLUE"

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