

# THE BAND OF BLUE

Greetings:

We hope you are having a safe and enjoyable summer! **Rookies who did not attend the first summer practice must attend the practice on Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup> 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 \$75.00. 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 of \$25.00. The first payment should have been paid by the end of May. If you have not paid this fee, you need to NOW! An additional \$25.00 will be due by the beginning of Band Camp (July 24) and a third \$25.00 before school begins (August 7). 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 have more than one child in the band, each child's fee will be \$50.00

You need to reserve ALL Friday nights beginning August 25th 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.

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. We are enclosing all of the show music for you. If your instrument needs to be repaired, please have this done before camp starts. Mr. Phillips from Pecknel Music in Charleston can help you with this. You need to have an 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.

**Colorguard Practice will be Monday, July 17<sup>th</sup> thru Saturday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>** (Times for Colorguard are 9:00-Noon & 1:00-4:00pm.) Guard Practice will be at CCHS in the morning and at the National Guard Armory in the afternoon. **Percussion Practice will start on Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM and run thru Friday July 21<sup>st</sup>** (Times will practice from 9:00-Noon & 1:00-4:00pm.) **Full band practice begins Monday, July 24<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am.** We will take a break at mid morning. 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 and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons.

We are very excited about this year's show, **Are We Alone?** The 2006 Band of Blue Production deals with Space, Heaven and Earth. In Space, we explore the universe with "Encounters" and in "Area 51" we discover what aliens would sound like making music. In "First Contact", we hear the angelic themes of mankind and the heavens. In our closer, Fusion, we realize that our home – mother Earth is a melting pot and **We are not Alone.** The music and drill will lend itself to a lot of new ideas and will be very competitive and challenging. Our show will be very fast paced and very different!

We will once again be competing in the 4A class and look forward to the challenge. We had a great year last year and nearly won the Lower State Title. Our goal is to reclaim the Lower State and State Championships. We were BETTER last year because of you! We want to continue with that idea of doing everything BETTER. The Band of Blue is a big family! Together we will produce a show that all of friends and family will 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. Don't except anything but your best effort. TOGETHER 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  
Joe Meshach, Associate Director of Bands

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## COLLETON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL "BAND OF BLUE"

1379 MIGHTY COUGAR DRIVE, WALTERBORO, SOUTH CAROLINA 29488

TELEPHONE: (843) 538-2907 FAX: (843) 538-2099

[WWW.BANDOFBLUE.ORG](http://WWW.BANDOFBLUE.ORG)

Tom Finigan Joe Meshach Cathy Meshach Nick Infinger

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