



THE BAND OF BLUE



Greetings:

We hope you are having a safe and enjoyable summer! **Color Guard who did not attend the first summer practice must attend the 2nd practice session Monday-Wednesday, July 14-16 from 9-Noon and 1-4PM. Rookies who did not attend the first summer drill session must attend the session on Tuesday, July 29th 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 **\$100.00**. 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 (\$25) was due at the end of May. **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 \$25.00 will be due by the beginning of Band Camp (August 4) and a third \$50.00 payment before school begins by (August 21). 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 \$75.00. 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 29th 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 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. If you would like a Kelly Mouthpiece, let us know, and we can order one for you. 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 21 -25.

Colorguard Pre-Camp will be Monday, July 28th thru Friday, August 1st (Times for Colorguard are 9AM-Noon & 1:00-4:00pm.) Guard Practice will be at CCHS in the morning and at the National Guard Armory in the afternoon. **Percussion Pre-Camp will start on Wednesday, July 30th and run thru Friday August 1st** (Percussion will practice from 9AM-Noon & 1:00-4:00pm.)

Full Band Practice (Everybody) begins Monday, August 4th 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 it now for the parents to keep you hydrated and we also need your 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 and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons.

We are very excited about this year's show, ***FAIRYTALES, MYTHS AND LEGENDS***. The 2008 Band of Blue Production conveys the ideas and dreams of a land far, far away. In our opener, (once upon a time) you will hear the sweet sounds of the forest in "Shrek" and then the thunderous emotion of love in the "Fanfare from Romeo and Juliet". The fast paced "Robin Hood" score tells the tale of the bold courage of a hero and his band of men as they struggle to fight for the honor of their loved ones. In our production, we visit the ancient carol "Divinum Mysterium" with its haunting chants and memorable themes. We also show a glimpse of the valor of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table in our percussion feature "Knight Battle." In closing our show, we visit the ballad from the epic film "Eragon" with its majestic and noble images. The music in this show is difficult and exciting, yet very sophisticated. It will be fun to perform. Our drill as usual will lend itself to a lot of new ideas and will be very competitive and challenging. We have a new drill wittier, Mr. Mike Higbe and I am sure he along with Mr. Miller will have some great visual impacts for us. 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 show last year and nearly won the Lower State Title. Our goal is to reclaim the Lower State and State Championship. We were BETTER last year because of you! We are all on the same team wanting the same goal. The Band of Blue is a big family! 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. Don't except anything but your best effort. **YOU CAN COUNT ON US, NOW WE ARE COUNTING ON YOU** to 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
Ervin Manigo, Associate Director of Bands
Greg Hall, Assistant Director and Director of Percussion Studies
Nick Infinger, Assistant Director of Bands
Stacey Miller, Visual Coordinator

COLLETON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL "BAND OF BLUE"

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