

Dear Parents and Band Students:

As the end of June draws near, it is once again time to begin thinking about marching season and the year to come. This letter is meant to provide band students and their parents with important information for the coming year. This year's band camp will be held at Schreiner College in Kerrville from August 2nd-6th. On August 5th, the band will display what it has worked on throughout the week to its proud Tiger parents and anyone else who wants to see the beginning of another great Dripping Springs marching season. This year's marching show is based on music from the South. All students are required to have "Savannah River Holiday" memorized before we leave for camp. The final summer listening day is July 18th from 9:00-11:00am. Students that have not passed off by the beginning of practices will be listened to during the rehearsals on July 30th-August 1st. One consideration for a marching spot is having your music memorized. Students are required to have a physical form on file before practice begins on July 30th. These should be turned in at registration night. A physical form may be obtained at www.dsbands.org for your convenience. Students that have not had a physical will not be allowed to practice. This could also be a factor in choosing marching spots for this year.

The band will be holding a registration night on **July 26th** at the high school band hall and cafeteria for all members. We are requiring that all students and at least one parent/guardian be present at this registration night. Refer to the schedule on the back of this page to see when your class is to register. **Any student showing up without a parent will not be allowed to enter the registration process or sign up for a room for camp, this includes seniors.** Please make every effort to be at this meeting so that we can take care of all payments and turn in all forms at one time. You will need at least one parent or legal guardian to attend so that all paperwork can be filled out correctly. If you or one of your parents cannot attend this meeting you will need to let me know so that other arrangements can be made. At the end of this letter, a detailed list of what you will pay for and do at registration is included. **Registration is not productive if you show up but are not prepared, so pay close attention to the list.**

A short meeting will be held at the end of the registration process on July 26th to discuss band camp. All incoming 9th grade students and their parents are required to attend. All other students and parents may attend if they feel they have questions concerning camp or band in general.

Fees for band camp will be **\$160.00** per person this year. Families with two or more siblings will pay \$130.00 per person. The camp payment will pay for housing in the dorms and all meals. Meals will be in the college cafeteria on campus. All students will sign up for a roommate for band camp during registration. Please decide with whom you would like to share a room prior to July 26th.

Students will again be given the opportunity to buy meals for away football games through the boosters. These meals will be delivered to the school prior to departure. Students will not be allowed to leave campus once school is out so it is highly encouraged that you purchase the meals. Payment for band camp and meals will be to the **Dripping Springs Band Boosters**. All other items purchased will be paid to **DSHS Bands**. You will need two checks made out to two different organizations. This caused confusion in the past. If any student or parent feels they cannot pay for band camp or any of the other fees please call the band hall and a payment plan will be worked out for you. We want all students to be a part of the band.

All students will need a water jug for all rehearsals at school. Water will be provided at band camp, but not at any other rehearsals. Students will not be allowed to share water jugs for health reasons.

Included with this letter is a schedule for band events for the year. Please read the schedule carefully and make arrangement to be at all events which are required. Rehearsals have been scheduled for three days before camp and several days after camp. These rehearsals will make the difference in how we do at our contests in September and October. These rehearsals are mandatory and all students are expected to attend.

The following is a short schedule and a list of things that each student needs to bring with them to the registration night and band camp. Please help your son/daughter make sure that they have everything listed so that we will have an enjoyable and successful beginning of the year.

July 26 th	Registration Night-All times PM 6:00-Seniors, 6:30-Juniors 7:00-Sophmonres, 7:30-Freshmen and New Members 8:30-9 th grade and new member parent and student informational meeting.	August 5 th	7:00pm Parents are invited to Schreiner College in Kerrville for Parent’s night.
		August 6 th	2:15pm Return from camp/parents pick you up
		August 8 th -9 th	4:00-9:00pm Full band rehearsal at HS band hall
July 30 th -Aug. 1	7:20-11:45am Woodwind, Brass, Percussion, Color guard- Marching/Sectionals	August 13 th -15 th	8:00-11:00pm Full band rehearsal at HS band hall 1:00-3:00pm Sectionals at HS band hall
August 2 nd	7:00am All students meet at the HIGH SCHOOL band hall for roll check and loading of instruments and luggage.	August 16 th	6:00-9:00pm Full band rehearsal at HS band hall
		August 20 th -23 rd	6:00-9:00pm Full band rehearsal at HS band hall

Registration Night—July 26th Follow the time for your grade

The following are items to bring to registration night. If you do not have something please take care of getting it before July 26th.

Flip folder with at least 10 pages—Everyone in the band including percussionists will need this. Colorguard members will not need it. To get on the bus and go to camp you must have a flip folder this year.

3 Ring Binder—You must have a 3 ring binder and at least 10 clear plastic pages for your music. To get on the bus and go to camp you will have to have a binder this year. Color guard will not need this.

Music lyre—All students except percussionists, tubas, & color guard must have a music lyre for band camp. If you need to buy one they can be purchased at Holze Music (Round Rock) or Strait music (Austin). You must have a lyre to board the bus for camp. Make sure if you purchase a new lyre that it fits the brand of instrument you have.

Permission slip and insurance card—Please bring the permission slip that is included with this letter with you. Fill out all the information including the medical section. This is an important piece of paperwork that we must have to take you anywhere the band travels. This year we are asking for a current insurance card for each student. Bring your card with you to the registration and we will make a copy and return the original to you that night.

Physical Form—All students are required to have a physical form on file before practice on July 30th. If you have not turned your form in you will need to do so are registration.

UIL Acknowledgement Form—UIL requires that all students have a UIL form signed by a parent on file for the year. The form is included with this information.

The following are items that need to be paid for the night of registration. Some of these items you will receive that night and others you will receive later in the season. You will need to decide what you need and be prepared to pay for these items that night.

Band camp fee/\$160.00—This is the fee for band camp to pay for housing and meals. If a family has more than one sibling in the band the cost would be **\$130.00** per person. Paid to Boosters.

Meal Fee/5 meals/\$35.00—This fee is for 1 meal that will be delivered before each away football game. Students will not be allowed to leave campus after school. If students do not purchase this plan they will have to bring a meal from home. The meal form is included with this information. Paid to Boosters.

Charter Bus Fee/\$35.00—This fee is to charter buses for the Marching contest in Dallas on November 3rd. We will leave early in the morning and return late. Students will be able to sleep and eat on these buses much easier than school buses. This fee is required for everyone. Paid to Band.

Water, Soda, Stamp Fee/\$10.00--This fee is for bottled water and one soda provided for each student at every football game during the season and bottled water at the marching contests. In addition it will cover the cost of stamps for Band Boosters to mail out important information throughout the year.

(In the past we have asked families to bring sodas and stamps to the Band Registration Night to donate to Band Boosters, however it was felt that it was easier for families if we just asked for a \$10 fee to cover these costs and we can purchase the items tax free at wholesale prices as needed.)

Items for Band Students Only-Prices Already Include Tax

Berps/\$15.25—Every brass player will need a BERP for band this year. All students should have one from MS or HS band. Anyone who is new or lost theirs needs to purchase one the night of registration. Percussion and woodwind players do not use this piece of equipment.

Gloves/\$3.25—Everyone in the band except percussionists and color guard will wear gloves. These are the same gloves as last year.

T-shirt/\$13.00—This is the show shirt that will have the contest show theme on it. This will be purchased by everyone in the band and worn during the season at pep rallies and marching contests. The shirts will be passed out shortly after school starts.

Parents may purchase a Show T-shirt or Band or Guard Polo Shirt if they wish. Please let the person working at the station of the item you wish to purchase know that you are interested in buying an item and they will add your name to the list. You will need to pay for whatever items you order that night. In addition, there will be a separate station for specific Band Booster Parent shirts. Several styles will be available for order with the Band Parent logo embroidered. Again, you will need to pay for whatever items you order that night.

Band Shoes/\$16.00 each (price for both=\$32.00)—Every band member must have 2 pair of band shoes (1white/1 black) this year. These can only be ordered through the school. The salesman will be at a rehearsal in August to size students for the shoes. Anyone needing shoes will pay for them at registration.

Cleaning Fee/\$48.00—Each band uniform will be laundered a minimum of 4 times during the year. The cost for one cleaning of the uniform is \$12.00. If the uniforms must be cleaned more than 4 times an additional payment may be needed at the end of the year.

Instrument Rental/\$45.00—Students that play tuba, baritone, french horn, bari sax, bass clarinet, contra Bass clarinet, bassoon, or students that will need to use one of our school owned trombones or tenor saxes will need to pay this rental fee. ALL percussion students will pay this fee this year. This fee pays for cleaning of the instrument at the end of the year and minor dent removal. It also pays for replacing pads on woodwind instruments. The percussion fee will include replacing heads that break throughout the season and repairs on harnesses. This year the band program will charge students for any repairs that we feel are caused from neglect. The small fee we charge does not cover the entire cleaning of the equipment at the end of the year and we will no longer be responsible for paying for damage to our equipment that students cause other than minor repairs. We will check out school instruments during registration.

Color Guard students should have a separate letter included with this packet that includes items color guard will need to pay for at registration.

Please make sure that you have all of these items and are ready to pay for whatever you need the night of registration. Please do not show up and tell us that you have not had time to get something. We are letting you know in plenty of time to take care of these things. Also remember that the band camp fee and meal fee will need to be paid to **Dripping Springs Band Boosters** and the rest of the fees will need to be paid to **DSHS Bands**. This means that you will need to write two checks the night of registration.

Informal Uniform—Students will wear an informal uniform for the first 2 football games and informal events such as parades. The informal uniform includes the band polo shirt. This year sizes for polo shirts will be taken a registration night. Shirts will be purchased and picked up by students or parents from Laser Graphics (120 Frog Pond Ln. @ Hwy 290) after **August 10th**. The cost of the shirt is \$18.00. This is the same shirt we have used for the last 5 years. The other informal uniform parts are listed below and students must have them before the first football game on August 31st.

Informal Uniform: Band Polo Shirt, Khaki Pants (no more than 4 pockets), black belt, black socks, black band shoes

The following are items you will need to bring with you to band camp on August 2nd.

What to bring:

Instrument	All students will need their instruments and mouthpieces for the camp. You will also need reeds, valve oil and slide grease for your instrument.
Music Lyre	To be used at camp and parents night..
Flip Folder	Everyone needs a flip folder with at least 10 pages.
3 Ring Binder	You must have a 3 ring binder and at least 10 clear plastic pages for your music
Clothes	Please bring clothes that are comfortable to march in. We are going to camp to work, so looking great is not the most important thing to consider. Everyone should bring at least on pair of comfortable shoes to march in. Tennis shoes are fine. Sandals and boots will not be allowed to be worn during any marching rehearsals. Caps and sunglasses are fine. Please remember that we are on a school sponsored event so the dress code will be followed. Mr. Lancaster will make all decisions if a question arises about any clothing that is considered inappropriate.
Swimsuit	Be <i>sure</i> to bring one
Alarm Clock	Not absolutely necessary, but a good idea if you want to be on time.
Bed Items	Each student needs to bring a set of twin sheets, a blanket or sleeping bag, and a pillow. None of this is provided by the dorms. The temperature in the rooms varies greatly so come prepared for hot and cold.
Lanyard	This is to keep up with your room key at camp. Lost keys cost \$75.00 to replace.
Hygiene items	Bring what you need
Towels and Washcloths	
4 Pencils	This is required.
Personal Medications (Asthma, Tylenol, cold medications, ace bandages, braces, etc.)	
Bobby Pins (Freshman only)	

Please do not bring a lot of extra personal property. We have a limited amount of space in the equipment trailer, and we must take our own equipment and stands.

The band boosters send out information by e-mail on a regular basis. Information about joining the boosters is included with this packet. If you are a 9th grade parent or new to our program, and would like to begin receiving e-mail bulletins from the boosters, please e-mail Vicky Mathews at the following address. She will add your name to her list.

bluestemridge@yahoo.com

The Dripping Springs band program has a web site that will assist you throughout the year with information. Please visit the web site often to keep up with the latest news and information. The address for the site is listed below:

Band site: www.dsbands.org

If you have any questions or have a conflict during any of these dates, you must call and discuss the conflict with Mr. Lancaster or Mr. Woods prior to the event or rehearsal. All doctors appointments should be scheduled around these dates and times. If you have general questions about band camp you may also call either drum major Morgan Passino (894-0077) or Devon Powell (300-8241). Field officers will have a meeting one afternoon during the rehearsals before camp. The band council will also meet during that time

Have a great remainder of the summer and we all look forward to seeing you at registration night!

With Pride,

Mr. Lancaster and Mr. Woods
High School Band Director
512-858-4612 x232

*****Important SAT/ACT Test Information*****

The SAT and ACT tests conflict with 2 marching contests this year. Students interested in taking the SAT should sign up immediately for the October 6th exam at Dripping Springs HS. This testing date will allow students to be done in time to participate in the Capital City Marching Festival. Students cannot sign up for the SAT on November 3rd. That day will be a marching contest in Dallas and we will be leaving early that morning. Students cannot sign up for the ACT on October 27th. That is the Area marching contest that qualifies bands for State.