Date: 4/14/2022

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students:

As we work toward the end of this school year, we are excited to look forward to next year’s Marching Band season! This has been an interesting year here at Southeast High School to say the least and I am personally super pumped to get started on next year. We’re looking forward to continuing our musical greatness and growth through the Marching Falcons in the next school year. This letter contains some important dates and information about our Marching Band Camp and upcoming Fall semester that you need to be aware of. Anyone who is interested in joining marching band but is not yet registered my find the link on our website under the “2022 Marching Band” tab and on our Band Facebook page.

**Band Camp**

First and foremost, it is difficult to have a marching band without a band camp. Band camp is a vital component of marching band as it allows us to learn, together, our procedures and protocol for different events, drill positions, and of course, music. It is a mandatory event that all band members should be prepared to attend. We will hold the camp for the 2022 season on **July 28th - August 12th** from 9 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Thursday, July 28th will be for leadership, 9th grade/new members, and Colorguard Only. Friday, July 29th will be for Percussion/Drumline and Colorguard only. Full band rehearsals will begin on Tuesday, August 2nd and will run through Friday, August 12th. A more detailed schedule will be uploaded on the Band website. During camp, there will be a lunch break every day from 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. At this time, everyone will be able to eat their lunches brought from home; students who drive will be allowed to go and get a lunch if they would like but they **must return promptly and be ready to work at 2 p.m.** **This is very important; if they do not return in a timely manner, they may be removed from camp and this may jeopardize their enrollment in the Band.** We will also do uniform jacket fittings on the evenings of camp; this will take place right at 5:00pm. and should not take very long. Each section (brass, woodwind, percussion, guard) will stay one night and we will fit and assign uniform jackets and hats.

**\*We are not yet sure what our show theme will be for the upcoming school year but as soon as a decision is made and the music arrives, we will let you know so you can pick it up from Mr. Pike and be practicing over the Summer.**

**\*We will have Preseason Mini Camp Workouts for each section in May to help refresh our memories and let possible new members learn about what we do.**

**\*We will also be having “Open session” or “In-Town” rehearsals every Tuesday over the Summer. Day and time info on this to come out soon.**

**Leadership request forms and Percussion information packets are now available via the Band website. Please fill these out and email them to Mr. Pike by Tuesday, May 3rd. Drum Major auditions and Leadership interviews will happen after the forms are received in May. All other Order forms and Information packets may also be found on the “2022 Marching Band” page of our Band Website.**

\*We will be holding regular Booster meetings and will be looking for many parents and interested community members to help us; we need your ideas and your involvement. Some things we will need help with are rehearsals, events, trips, building and attaining props for our show, pulling the band trailer, and moving equipment at football games and festival performances.

**NightBEAT**

Prior to our Band Camp, we will try to take a group of students to this Drum Corps International (professional marching bands) event at BB&T (now Truist) Stadium in Winston-Salem. If it takes place this year, the date will be Sunday, July 31st. We do not know as of yet if this event will be held this year. If it is, we will try and go. Stay tuned.

**Football Games/Other Performances**

\*At the time of this letter, I do have the full Football schedule that I will include at the end of this letter. Please remember that everything is still very tentative right now again due to Covid-19. However, **All Marching Band members are required to play and perform at every home football game**; there also may be a select number of away games that we will travel to. The first Home football game of the season is Friday, August 19th vs. Southern Guilford.

\*We will be looking to continue our success and growth in the upcoming marching seasons. **All band members are required to perform at any festivals/competitions that may be scheduled.** As of this letter, we have no information on these yet. All festivals take place on Saturdays and we will update you if we learn anything new. Some of these competitions/festivals may or may not take place; we will update you as soon as we know more. We will continue building our Auxiliary/Pit percussion and our Color Guard this year.

We will be doing several fundraisers throughout the school year that all students are expected to participate in.

We will also perform in the Pleasant Garden Christmas Parade as well as other parades - Dates TBA.

We will also have a Holiday concert around the end of November/beginning of December.

Other unknown performances or opportunities may arise but are not listed here.

\*\*School Year Rehearsals – Every Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday after school

**\*\*\*Attendance:  It is expected that students and families FULLY commit to the calendar provided (camps, games, competitions, etc). We understand that sometimes events arise and we will be as flexible as possible but just like every sport or activity, we all have to show up in order to work together to create excellence.**

\*\*A list of all events known at this time is included at the end of this letter.

**Necessary Materials/Fees**

In order to be an active member of the marching band, there are a few things that each student must purchase for their uniform. There is also a general “Band Fee” that covers transportation, uniform cleanings, registration fees to festivals, and other items. The breakdown is included on the Order Form. The Band Fee will be reduced this year again due to the impacts of Covid-19.

Each student will be required to purchase at least 1 marching band Tee-shirt; it is part of the uniform. **Percussionists will be required to purchase their own drumsticks/mallets (with the exclusion of Bass Drums).** **Colorguard members will be required to purchase at least 1 pair of guard gloves and 1 pair of shoes. Forms for all of these purchases will be located on the Band Website. Price breakdowns and Due dates are included at the top of each form.** If your student is an upperclassman and still has pants and/or shoes and gloves in good condition, they may use these. We do have some pants, shoes, and gloves that we will provide for the uniform, but everyone is welcome to purchase their own in order to use them multiple years. If you’d like more information on this, please let Mr. Pike know.

All students must also have a lyre & flip folder for music & reeds if necessary by the first day of camp – Purchase them @Music & Arts, Moore Music, or other music stores.
Band Camp Rehearsals – wear sunscreen and shoes that are ok to get wet, grass may be wet!! Bring sunglasses if you have them and water. DO NOT wear hot, dark, baggy clothing; you will melt!!

**Remind.com**

In addition to other forms of communication, we will also be using a website called remind.com to share information. This site is very useful for posting to, texting, and emailing each other. It also has a free app that you can download onto a smartphone and can be accessed or used this way via the app or the computer website. You can also send a text code which will allow you to receive texts from me via the app. Parents and/or students can sign up. The signup sheet/information for this will be included at a later date.

Thank you so much for your time! I’m very excited to get this season started and I will look forward to seeing you all in the near future! Please do not hesitate to call me, email me, or use the remind app to reach me if you have any questions or concerns. I’m here for you and your students and would be happy to help you out in any way I can.

Sincerely,

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Travis J. Pike, BM

Director of Bands

**KNOWN SCHEDULE OF EVENTS ( \* = Required Event )**

Thursday, May 5th: Preseason Workout for Woodwinds and Brass – after school @SEGHS

Thursday, May 12th: Preseason Workout for Percussion – after school @SEGHS

Thursday, May 19th: Preseason Workout for Colorguard – after school @SEGHS

\*Thursday, July 28th: Band Camp Day 1 for Leadership, 9th/new members, and Colorguard ONLY – all day

\*Friday, July 29th: Band Camp Day 2 for Guard Only and Day 1 for Percussion ONLY – all day

Sunday, July 31st: NightBEAT DCI event in Winston-Salem – afternoon to evening

\*Tuesday, August 2nd - Friday, August 12th: FULL BAND CAMP for ALL MEMBERS

 – 9am-5pm

\*Friday, August 19th: HOME Football vs. Southern Guilford

\*Friday, September 9th: HOME Football vs. Charles Jordan High

\*Friday, September 16th: HOME Football vs. Grimsley

\*Friday, September 23rd: HOME Football vs. Northern Guilford

Friday, September 30th: away football @Ragsdale

\*Late September/Early October Marching Competition Festival (Possibly McMichael or other)

– All Day

\*Friday, October 7th: HOME Football vs. Southwest Guilford

\*Another Early/Mid October Marching Competition Festival (possibly Mt. Airy or East Surry)

 - All Day

Friday, October 14th: away football @Western Guilford

\*Friday, October 21st: HOME Football vs. Northwest Guilford

Friday, October 28th: away football @Page High

\*Late October/Early November Marching Competition Festival (possibly W. Alamance)

 - All Day

\*Possible Playoff Football From early November through Early December.