



Cimarron-Memorial High School Bands

Curtis J. Melton, Director

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Dear Parents and Students of the CMHS Band/Color Guard:

I hope that all of you are enjoying your summer vacations! As per your May letter, this letter serves to remind everyone of just a few things before band camp starts in a few weeks!

- 1.) ALL Percussionists and ALL Color Guard Members - you start on **Monday, August 8th at 11:00am in the CMHS Bandroom.**

Full Band and Guard (Everyone, ALL MEMBERS of band and guard) - you start on **Monday, August 15th at 10:00am in the CMHS Bandroom.**

****See the end of this mailer for the full band camp schedule. SOME DAYS OF CAMP HAVE BEEN REVISED – Please check August 22nd through the 26th for changes in meeting/rehearsal times.**

****We will have an informal “audition” at 10:00am on that first day (8/15) for woodwind and brass students. THIS IS LOW IMPACT!** This is simply to place you within your sections for the “part” you will play for marching season. All you have to make sure of is that you have your instrument – and for the audition you will read (yes read, *not* have memorized) some major scales and read parts of the show music. Any questions about this – please ask! This is not something to stress out about!

*****Remember! - Band Camp is REQUIRED - and NOT an optional event to attend. Make sure you have made all arrangements to be at camp! If you miss any band camp due to non-school related reasons - your standing in the band could be in jeopardy. In other words, you could be made an alternate, which means you would not be written into the marching band field show.***

Remember - work, babysitting, vacations, and other excuses similar to these are not excusable. Please make sure you have worked out these conflicts well before camp starts.

Band camp is where we learn all of our music, learn how to march, and begin learning the drill for the field competition show at camp. It is very important for everyone to be here!

Again - if you have sports practices during camp - come speak to me and we will work it out so you can be at BOTH. If you are in sports related conflicts - your standing in the band will NOT be affected. You will be fine - because it is a school related activity.

- 2.) Remember our weekly Tuesday Night Rehearsals, which will begin on Tuesday, August 30th and run from 5:30-8:30pm, and these will take place throughout the marching band season. These “regular” Tuesday night rehearsals end on Tuesday, November 8th.

Also as a reminder, Color Guard rehearsals are on Tuesday Nights from 4:30-8:30pm, and Thursday Nights from 4:00-8:00pm, as per the Color Guard Informational Meeting back on May 9th, 2011. As the season presses on, the start times for guard rehearsals could be pushed back to later start times, or shorter rehearsals.

***Tuesday Night Rehearsals are **graded and required rehearsals for band members**. This is where we really get to “dig in” and learn drill for the show, and clean all of the details of our competition show. These are **CRUCIAL** to our success!*

***Tuesday AND Thursday Night Rehearsals **are required rehearsals for guard members**. This is where we really get to “dig in” and learn drill for the show, learn and clean the work, and clean all of the details of our competition show. These are **CRUCIAL** to our success! ATTENDANCE IS A MUST TO ALL REHEARSALS!!*

- 3.) Please, **BE ON TIME TO ALL START TIMES**. This is something the CMHS Band feels very strongly about. When rehearsal starts, I would like to actually *start rehearsal and attendance* at the start time. I ask that you please be in your seats, ready to go with your instrument and music and pencil at any call time.

“To be early is to be on time, to be on time is to be late, to be late is not to be.”

- 4.) Bring your **instrument** and a **pencil** to the first day of band camp. All music will be provided and handed out on the first day - and then you must bring your music with you to band every day along with everything else. **Pencils are required**, as we will *always* be making marks on the music. Make sure to have plenty of reeds, valve oil, sticks, mallets, etc.

****PERCUSSIONISTS – At this time, all percussion students should own a pair of drumsticks for drums, medium YARN mallets for playing on keyboard equipment, and a pair of timpani mallets for concert season. THIS WILL BE A GRADED ASSIGNMENT BY FRIDAY, AUGUST 12th. This will go on the 1st Quarter Grade. Every percussionist needs to have their own equipment. If you have questions regarding this policy, please let me know. Also, if there is or might be a financial hardship, please let me know that as well, we will work with you.**

Optional equipment for percussionists at this time is a pair of hard xylophone mallets, and perhaps a different size pair of drumsticks. Any percussionist to be successful in the CMHS Band will need to have these items, just like any wind player needs reeds, valve oil, and their instrument cleaning kits. If you have questions or concerns, please let me know.

- 4.) Band locker checkouts will take place during the first week of band camp. Uniform checkout will also take place during the first week. **A full list of the years’ performance dates will be also provided to the students on the first day of camp.** Also – if you need to check out a school owned instrument, that will take place the first day of band camp.

INSTRUMENT CHECK-OUT WILL START AT 8:30am ON MONDAY, AUGUST 15th FOR THOSE WHO NEED ONE. If you wish, you can contact me before band camp begins, so I can let you know if I do in fact have an instrument to check out to you. Instrument checkout will also be done before & after percussion camp times, before 11am and after 2pm, the week of Aug 8-12. Either way, all students needing a school-owned instrument needs to have an instrument in hand by 9:30am on August 15th, so they can be ready for the 10:00am start time that morning.

However – I have VERY FEW school flutes, clarinets, trumpets, or trombones, and very, very few alto and tenor saxes, if any. If this is what you play and you do not own one, I would suggest renting one from a music store. The cost to do this is usually pretty low. If you have any questions about this please let me know.

*****BEFORE PURCHASING OR RENTING AN INSTRUMENT – PLEASE TRY TO CONTACT CMHS BAND STAFF FIRST. We can help you pick the best (and cost-effective) instrument to buy or rent. Going to an educational music store is recommended for instrument purchase/renting.***

6.) Bring WATER (not soda), and sunscreen, hats, visors, etc. for outdoor rehearsals. We will not be going outside until the 6:00-9:00pm blocks during band camp, but it still stays sunny for at least the first hour. Make sure you eat right and drink right, and lather on the sunscreen so we all stay healthy in the sun. After 7:15pm we will be “under the lights”.

I wish to congratulate our STUDENT LEADERS FOR 2011-2012:

Drum Majors: ***Kenya Lawrence and Ashley Kloos***
Color Guard Captains: ***Nicole Blanco and Emily Haun***
Section Leaders: ***Victor Quintanilla, Amanda Ward, Brianna Alves, and Charles Thompson***

The following students were selected as FIELD ASSISTANTS for 2011-2012:

Bridgit Martin, Mauricio Molina, Jennifer Shelor, & Kaylee Hart

Student Leaders (drum majors, guard captains, and section leaders) will all be assisting with teaching drill and music, uniform inspections, running sectionals, and helping out with any task to further the general progress of the band. These people will be helping all the students in the band, and new people; you will meet these people at band camp!

Field Assistants will be assisting on the field with the tasks needed for rehearsals, such as field setup, teaching drill, among other things. **BIG CONGRATULATIONS to the people who were selected for these positions!**

7.) Please remember that your band fees, and your marching shoe fee are all due by **Friday, August 19th**. Also - if you need to work out a payment plan to cover the fees - please come see me, we will work all that out. If you have questions about any fees, please contact me.
******Remember – please do not drop band or guard because of money worries – WE WILL WORK WITH YOU to be able to meet the costs, and still participate in the program!******

8.) If you did not receive the FIRST summer mailer that was mailed back in May or given to you in your band classes for any reason - please email or call me - and I will either email the 1st summer mailer to you or get it to you by regular mail.

Either way - please make sure you received the first one as well since it has the full band camp schedule and other information. **Also, if you know of people enrolled or planning to enroll in band or join color guard that have not received any letter from me – please tell them to contact me – preferably through email – so I can email them quickly these letters. We don't want to leave anyone out.**

9.) Feel free to check out the Cimarron-Memorial High School Band Website! This site will be used throughout the year to announce dates, marching band information, and eventually, pictures of you all “in action” through the year! There is an “Archive Page” on the website, for those who want to look back at photos from 2008 to now. (For pictures, everyone will fill out a **Publicity Request Form** at the beginning of the year – and you must mark “**YES**” to have yourselves seen in pictures on the website. If you mark “NO” – then you will have to be edited out of pictures we post online.) <http://cmhsbandlv.org>

10.) Our band and guard program now has a Facebook page!!! Go to <http://facebook.com/CMHSBandandGuard> - and then “Like” the page! This will keep you up to date through the rest of the summer and throughout the year on band happenings. It's very easy – just go “LIKE” it – right now!

****The May letter and this July letter are also posted up on the band website in case you misplaced them, or just need easy access to this information again.****

The address is <http://cmhsbandlv.org>. Go check it out! **THE SITE HAS BEEN UPDATED – check it out! – REFRESH YOUR BROWSER ON EACH PAGE (Home page also) - TO SEE THE MOST UP-TO-DATE VERSION.**

Make sure you come to rehearsals with a good attitude and all materials, and band camp this year will be a huge success!!!!

****Finally, **ALL 2011-2012 STUDENT LEADERS** – please plan on meeting in the bandroom on **Monday, August 15th at 8:00am** to go over some items before everyone arrives. If you are unable to attend at that time, please contact me and let me know. Otherwise, I hope to see you there at 8:00am on 8/15!

Be ready to play some great music, be ready for drill downs to take place every night with the final “Championship Drill Down” to take place at the end of camp, and get ready for a wonderful school year. I hope you all share my extreme excitement for the upcoming year. SEE EVERYONE IN A FEW WEEKS!

Sincerely,

Curtis Melton
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799-4400, ext. 4040
<http://cmhsbandlv.org>

<http://facebook.com/CMHSBandandGuard> - Go “Like” this page if you haven't already!!

2011 CMHS BAND CAMP SCHEDULE

DOUBLECHECK REVISED TIMES 8/22 through 8/26

Monday, August 8th through Friday, August 12th –
PERCUSSION/COLORGUARD ONLY; 11am-2pm

Monday, August 15th–
INSTRUMENT CHECKOUT – 8am-10am,
FULL BAND AND COLORGUARD REPORT (EVERYONE); 10am-4pm,
then, (4-6pm Dinner), then,
ALL STUDENT LEADERS, FRESHMEN AND NEW MARCHERS TO THE
*CMHS BAND **ONLY**; 6-9pm*
(All veteran CMHS Band members will be excused to go home after
4pm, on August 15th and 16th).

Tuesday, August 16th–
FULL BAND AND COLORGUARD (EVERYONE); 1pm-4pm,
then, (4-6pm Dinner), then,
ALL STUDENT LEADERS, FRESHMEN AND NEW MARCHERS TO THE
*CMHS BAND **ONLY**; 6-9pm*
(All veteran CMHS Band members will be excused to go home after
4pm, on August 15th and 16th).

Wednesday, August 17th through Friday, August 19th –
FULL BAND & COLORGUARD (EVERYONE);
*1-4pm Music **and** 6-9pm Marching, 4-6pm Dinner*

REVISION #1

Monday, August 22nd
FULL BAND & COLORGUARD (EVERYONE);
8-11am **and** 1-4pm, 11am-1pm Lunch
***5:30pm Call Time for Freshman Orientation Performance @ 6:00pm*
BAND SHIRTS/JEANS will be the dress for this performance!
**Performance will be over by 6:30pm or so. Students are then excused to*
go home.

Tuesday, August 23rd –
FULL BAND & COLORGUARD (EVERYONE);
*1-4pm Music **and** 6-9pm Marching, 4-6pm Dinner*

REVISION #2

Wednesday, August 24th -
FULL BAND & COLORGUARD (EVERYONE); 2-6pm

Thursday, August 25th -

FULL BAND & COLORGUARD (EVERYONE); 5-9pm
******PARENT PREVIEW PERFORMANCE at 8:30pm!!******

(Here we will hold Championship Drill Downs, and demonstrate the marching, and perform the 2011 "Spiral of Terror" Show. Please reserve this time and date to come see the students in their first performance of the 2011-2012 Cimarron-Memorial HS Marching Band!!)

REVISION #3

Friday, August 26th -

FIRST FOOTBALL GAME PERFORMANCE

Away Football Game @ Basic HS - Call Time 5:15pm in BAND SHIRTS/BLUE JEANS

Students will all travel to Basic HS together on school busses. This is the first GRADED PERFORMANCE - so be on time and be ready to have fun supporting the team at their first game of the season!

Please take the time to mark these small revisions in the band camp schedule!!!! We're looking forward to an amazing year!!

LASTLY - if you are currently not signed up for band and have received this letter - and wish to change your mind and join us - it is NOT TOO LATE! Please come to the first day of band camp and we will make sure we figure it out with your counselor to make sure you are enrolled.

.....it will be a great year - don't miss out! See everyone soon!