

July 2009

Dear Haltom High School Band Student and Parent,

We hope you are having a great summer! We are getting very close to moving into our new facility. It is beautiful and allows the band to take a step forward. We plan to start the first week of August in the Shannon Center, but we should be in our new band hall August 10. With the work of many we are once again expecting the HHS Marching Band to have another successful fall. The wind section, color guard, and drum line have been involved in master classes throughout June and July. We should be ready to have an exciting fall.

In this mailing you will find a lot of important information. Read everything and keep it in a convenient location. Enclosed is a school year calendar, list of fall expenses, parent permission – medical history/release form, and information from the Haltom Area Band Friends. All of the information in the packet will be posted on the Haltom Band website: [www.haltomband.org](http://www.haltomband.org)

Our band program has been developed so that all can participate in high school marching band. Everyone who is enrolled in band at Haltom High School is a member of the marching band, **THE PRIDE OF HALTOM**. The marching band is the combined concert bands, percussion classes, and color guard classes at our school. The marching band is made of two levels – Varsity and Junior Varsity. We will start August 3 with both levels combined as one. All will perform at varsity football games (Friday nights) and other activities. The Varsity and Junior Varsity marching bands are decided on the student's choice of participation – or by the student's indication on their intent forms. **It is strongly encouraged that all band students participate in the Varsity Marching Band.**

The Varsity Band may have alternates to help make sure we have the complete instrumentation at all performances and everyone can be successful. Like other Varsity groups on our campus, the Varsity marching band will have a rigorous rehearsal schedule. **The schedule is arranged so that all can achieve in all aspects of school.** The Varsity marching band will compete at marching contests throughout the fall. The Junior Varsity is structured in a manner in which all students can learn to perform and participate with a minimal amount of outside school rehearsal time. Participation should be limited to those involved in conflicting extracurricular school activities.

**We will continue our summer band August 3 at the Shannon Center. Summer wind rehearsals for all Haltom Band Students,** August 3 – 8 will be inside. We will be playing our instruments. You will need your marching instrument and binder. In your binder, you should have a pencil bag with a pencil and plastic inserts to secure music you will receive. All brass players will need a Buzz Extension and Resistance Piece (B-E-R-P) for summer band. A music flip folder and a music lyre will need to be purchased at a music store before the start of school. **Please bring a completed Parent Permission and Medical History/Release Form to your rehearsal August 3.** We will keep this on file all year for your child's safety.

**Starting August 10, the Summer Band program at Haltom is only for the Varsity Marching Band. It will be at Haltom High School.** We will meet outside on the practice field at the beginning. We will be using the new fine arts area; please do not go in any other area of the school. We will be focused on preparing our first show, August 27, the first football game. You will need to dress comfortably – you should wear a cool light colored shirt, shorts and low cut athletic shoes. **Bring a thermos of ice water and use sunscreen** – we will be outside. You will need your marching instrument and binder.

Shoes, gloves, and Pride shirts will be ordered before school. All sizing will be done in summer band. We will be using the same style of shoes we used last fall, some may not have to order new shoes. All new students will need to order marching shoes. Our Pride shirt will be changed; all will need a new shirt.

On the first day of school you will be receiving a B.I.S.D. Private Lesson Enrollment Form. Private Lessons are not a requirement of the Haltom Band program but are *strongly encouraged*. Some of the private teachers have been teaching throughout the summer. You may want to contact a BISD private teacher and start lessons before school.

Our panoramic group picture will be scheduled during the school year. The purchase of a panoramic photograph is optional. If you choose to purchase, you will receive more information at the start of school.

All band students are to be in attendance for every rehearsal for summer band camp and throughout the fall marching season. Exceptional attendance is our goal and attendance is an important part of each student's grade. We appreciate advance notification by the parent of any student's absence. **We have improved this communication though email this summer.** All parent communication regarding absences should be sent to Mr. Maughmer's email from August 3 through marching season -[ben\\_maughmer@birdville.k12.tx.us](mailto:ben_maughmer@birdville.k12.tx.us)

**Once again, August 3 is the start of Summer Band for all Haltom Band Students.**

All students and parents are greatly appreciated! Parents, there is no way the band program at Haltom High School could be successful without your support through the years. We look forward to working with you throughout 2009 – 2010.

**KEEP THE SPIRIT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Haltom Band Staff  
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