

May 2010

Dear Haltom High School Band Student and Parent,

Welcome to the 2010-2011 Band program! Though school hasn't yet finished, we are moving quickly forward with plans for next year. This packet contains valuable information to prepare new and returning students for the best band season yet. Please read carefully and keep this packet in a convenient location. Included in this packet is a summer activity schedule, a list of fall expenses, information regarding www.charmsoffice.com, frequently asked questions and information from Haltom Area Band Friends.

The Haltom Band program has been developed so that every student CAN participate in high school marching band. EVERYONE who is enrolled in band at Haltom High School is a member of our marching band: THE PRIDE OF HALTOM. The PRIDE OF HALTOM is the combined concert band, percussion and color guard classes at our school. The marching band has two levels of participation: Varsity and Junior Varsity. Both groups will rehearse as one during June, July and early August.

Like other varsity groups at Haltom High School, the Varsity marching band will have a rigorous rehearsal schedule. The Summer Activities page of this packet outlines the rehearsals prior to the first day of classes. The schedule relaxes considerably once school begins so that ALL student can achieve in ALL aspects of school. Students involved in conflicting Varsity activities may elect to participate in the Junior Varsity band. The Junior Varsity band rehearses a minimal amount outside of school, but still participates and performs with the Varsity band at football games. Junior varsity band student should attend masterclasses in June and July as well as the afternoon TMEA masterclasses in August. *All students who have committed to traveling to the Rose parade will participate at the Varsity level.

Summer Band will begin on Monday, August 2 with a full Varsity rehearsal at 9am. Every Varsity band student is expected to attend every rehearsal for summer band and throughout marching season for the entirety of the rehearsal. Exceptional attendance is our goal and necessary for large group success. Attendance is an important part of each student's grade. A rehearsal calendar for marching season will be made available Monday, August 2. Please use that information to schedule appointments in a way that students will not miss rehearsal.

This year our summer band will conclude with a full uniform performance of our show on the HHS parking lot on Friday, August 20. We will also be taking our annual panoramic portrait this evening. It is crucial that every student in the band program be in attendance in full uniform for this photograph. Portraits from the last twenty years are on display in the Practice Hall.

In order to have all uniform pieces present for the Panoramic Portrait on August 20, we will be ordering shoes, gloves and pride shirts in June. Student who miss the May 22 Band Registration will be sized during summer Masterclasses. We will be using the same style of MTX marching shoe that was used in 2009; some students may not have to order new shoes. All new students will need to order marching

shoes. The 2010 Pride shirt has changed and every student will need to purchase one (Many students choose to purchase two Pride shirts. This is a personal preference and is not expected.) Student will need to purchase LONG, ALL BLACK socks prior to the first wearing of the uniform as well. Baseball or Soccer socks work well.

In this packet you will also find information regarding band fees for the 2010-2011 school year. Please read this information carefully as not all students are expected to pay every listed fee. Collecting money throughout the year can be difficult. To ease the financial impact of participation in band, we have spread the payments out this year. It is critical that fees are paid in a timely manner to ensure the success of the students. Checks for all fees (except Meal Tickets) should be made to "Haltom High School Band." Any payment can be placed in an envelope which is clearly marked with the Student's name, amount of payment and reason for the payment. The first payment is due the week of June 15.

There are many opportunities for students to help raise funds for the band. These activities are sponsored by the Haltom Area Band Friends. Parents, please consider offering your time or services to this organization. The support that parents have provided through the years has made it possible for the Haltom band to experience the success that it has.

We look forward to working with you and getting to know you this year!

Keep the Spirit!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

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