

Apalachee High School Bands

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Happy summer break! We hope that this newsletter finds you enjoying your time away from school. It is a great time to recharge and prepare for another school year. For some of us, this is the beginning of a new life in high school and for others it is a time to celebrate achievements and reach for the future. This is what makes high school so exciting.

If you have received this letter, you expressed interest in being a member of the 2016 edition of the Apalachee High School "Marching Cats". In this, you will find a calendar of summer and fall activities, as well as other items of note to get us to off to a great start. We are so excited that you decided to join us and be a part of our band "family".

Please note, on **July 12, 2016 at 6:00 pm** there is a mandatory meeting for all marching band students and at least one parent. The purpose is to meet Mr. Muldrow, collect any forms and payments due and review routines and procedures for the fall 2016 marching season.

If there are any questions, do not hesitate to call me at the band office, (770) 586-5111. If I am not available, please leave a message. Alternatively, you can email me at dion.muldrow@barrow.k12.ga.us. Remember, the only poor question is the one not asked.

Summer Camps

All Marching Band Camp rehearsals occur at Apalachee High School. Our family depends on each other for our success, therefore, attendance at all rehearsals and camps are **mandatory** for all marching band members except in emergency situations. Please notify Mr. Muldrow immediately if you need to miss a rehearsal. Unexcused absences may result in a student being placed as an alternate or loss of position with the band.

Pre-Camp

In mid-July, the percussion and auxiliary report a few additional days to continue learning routines. New marchers will get two days of training on how to march, the vocabulary we use, and all the other parts of moving around the field. In addition, we will have afternoon music rehearsals for all woodwinds and brass to continue learning our show music.

Band Camp

Band camp occurs prior to the start of school to build our band family, learn our marching steps, shake off the musical cobwebs, and the lay the foundation for our halftime show. Note: Our first football game is August 26, 2016.

Please dress appropriately for the weather. It appears that we have a hot summer ahead. We march outside in the mornings while it is a little cooler until around 12:00 pm. After lunch we move indoors to work on the music. There will be additional instructors to work with the different instrument families during both sessions. These instructors will help us sound and look great. Also during the afternoons, we use this time to handle business like fitting you for a band uniform.

Family Bonding

At the end of the camp we find time to come together as a single group with ‘family bonding’; a Marching Cats tradition.

What you need to bring to the camps:

- ★ A positive attitude!
- ★ Instruments and accessories (mouthpiece, reeds, drum sticks...etc)
- ★ **Lunch...no one may leave campus for lunch (non perishables only)**
- ★ Tennis shoes and socks are required...no flip flops, skate shoes, etc.
- ★ Pen or Pencil
- ★ **Water bottle - Mandatory (refillable bottle)**
- ★ Sunscreen
- ★ Medication (if needed)
- ★ Spirit Days (Week Two)
 - Monday - Superhero
 - Tuesday - Twin Day
 - Wednesday - Section Spirit Day
 - Thursday - Wildcat Pride Day (Wear your blue and gold)
 - Friday - Band T-Shirts

Logistics during camp:

- Make sure that prior to camp you have turned in all Marching Band forms
- Arrive early (we consider early on time, and on time is late)
- Drop students off in the bus loop near the outside doors of the band room
- Please notify band directors prior to camp if a student needs medical supervision
- Please pick up students promptly when camp ends

So, take time to enjoy your summer because the hard work will begin again before long. However, we don't mind because it means that it's marching band time again! You know you are a band kid if;

- You got totally excited when this letter came in the mail
- You are humming your show music while you read this
- You try to guess the tempo of your favorite song
- You always start off on the left foot
- You already sent a snapchat about band to everyone you know
- You miss the smell of the band room
- You haven't played a game of cards lately
- You start humming a show tune from 3 years ago and your friends join in with their respective parts

Please post the colored sheet with our band camp and football schedule on the fridge for your information. Share it with your parents, family, boss, and anybody else you can think of so that you can be here and everybody else can make plans to come watch you. The band depends upon **YOU** to make it work. **Every person matters.** We look forward to seeing you in July and having a fantastic year.

Time Commitment

Marching band members must attend all required summer rehearsals. Upon the start of the school year, the marching band practices every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:00 pm to 5:30 pm and performs at all football games, both home and away. In addition, percussion and colorguard rehearse on every Monday from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm. In addition, there may be sectionals called on Monday afternoons to aid with learning and perfecting our show music. Please plan for one Saturday in October, either October 1st or October 8th for marching festival. Festival is mandatory for all marching band participants and the exact schedule is to be determined. Below is the summer rehearsal schedule.

Summer Rehearsal Schedule

July 11-12	Drumline, Front Ensemble, Color Guard, Leadership	9:00 am - 3:00 pm
July 12	Mandatory Marching Band Meeting	6:00 pm
	*Band Member and Parent/Guardian (at least one)	
July 13-14	New Members, Drumline, Pit, Flag Line	9:00 am - 3:00 pm
	Leadership	
July 13-14	Music Rehearsal (all band members encouraged to attend)	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
July 15	*All Marching Band Members	9:00 am - 3:00 pm
July 18-22	Band Camp	8:00 am - 4:00 pm
July 26 & 28	Post Camp	6:00 pm - 8:30 pm
	Family Bonding (July 28)	
July TBD	Picture Day	9:00 am
August 01	First Day of School!	

* All marching band members includes new members, drumline, front ensemble, color guard and leadership.

Fall Marching Band Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
August 26	River Ridge	6:30 pm	Home
September 2	Union Grove	TBA	Away
September 9	Discovery	TBA	Away
September 16	Walnut Grove	6:30 pm	Home
September 23	Monroe (Homecoming)	6:30 pm	Home
September 30	Winder-Barrow	6:30 pm	Home
October 1	Possible Festival	TBA	Away
October 7	Dacula	TBA	Away
October 8	Possible Festival	TBA	Away
October 14	Open		
October 21	Lanier	TBA	Away
October 28	Gainesville (Senior Night)	6:30 pm	Home
November 4	Habersham Central	TBA	Away
November 15	Marching Band Banquet	6:00 pm	AHS Café'
December 3?	Winder Christmas Parade	TBD	Downtown Winder

Attendance at all performances is required. It is your responsibility to arrange appointments and work around our band schedule. If you are going to miss an event you need to contact Mr. Muldrow as soon as possible at dion.muldrow@barrow.k12.ga.us.