

Dear Bulldog Band parents and students,

We are now less than one week away from the start of the 2017 season. I hope everyone has had a restful summer and they are looking forward to getting started this year. This letter should answer all the questions you may have regarding summer band, what to bring, what to wear, etc. As always if there is anything I do not address in this communication that you are still wondering about please feel free to email me at fulwoodd@rcisd.org.

### **Items needed for Summer Band (General Items)**

- **A well-hydrated body!** Begin drinking water daily now! Your body takes time to hydrate, but very little time to dehydrate. Showing up unprepared for outside conditions is not acceptable. DO NOT load up on sugary caffeinated drinks and make sure you have been getting rest.
- **Your show music and stand tunes printed from Google drive or the website:** Please visit the google drive folder or website and print your parts as well as the stand tunes for your instrument and bring them to Summer Band. All music should be available for download by Wednesday, July 26th. I will email when it is complete. ***Not having a working printer or being out of toner is not a valid excuse.***
- **Your water thermos you will purchase at registration:** Please make sure you have this filled with ice and water and have it at every rehearsal.
- **Tennis Shoes only:** Due to the nature of the style of marching we will be doing, a tennis shoe that flexes in the middle of the shoe is a must. Converse, Vans, Toms, or any other flat sole shoe will not be allowed. **(NO Sandals or flip flops)**
- **Tshirt/Shorts/appropriate summer attire:** Pants, jeans, warm-ups, or other full leg pant **will not** be allowed during summer band. Students need to wear clothing that is comfortable to move in and will breathe so that they will remain cool and not overheat. If there is a medical condition preventing your child from wearing shorts, please let me know as soon as possible.
- **Sunscreen/Hat/Sunglasses:** In the mornings, we tend to face into the sun due to the orientation for our practice field.
- **Beach Towel:** Each member of the trombone, mellophone (horn), euphonium, sousaphone (Tuba), low reeds(bari sax, tenor sax, bass clarinet) and drum line need to bring a beach towel. This is to protect the instruments from the concrete and the heat on breaks or while we are just marching without equipment. Leadership team will bring towels for the other instrument groups.
- **Pencil: No excuses...you have needed this since 6<sup>th</sup> grade.**
- **Lunch-**Students may bring a lunch if they are unable to leave campus during the lunch break. Students are not permitted to transport other students in their cars without parent permission from both the driver and passenger's parents.

- **Inhalers/Medications:** Anything you use to control asthma or other health related issues that have a quick onset (bee sting allergies, etc) must be brought to camp every day and kept with you.
- **A Positive Attitude:** Attitude is everything...come ready to learn, work, and have a blast!

### **Section Specific Items:**

#### **Brass**

- Valve Oil, Grease, Slide Cream, Rotor Oil (F Attachment trombones)
- Mouthpiece (for those of you using school owned instruments)
- Flip Folder
- Lyre (for holding flip folder)
- Instrument in working condition
- **Pencil**

#### **Woodwinds-Under no circumstances should any reed player be playing on a reed strength of 4 or more.**

- At least 3 good ***Vandoren reeds*** at all times (they should be labeled and rotated daily)...
- Swab (Clarinets/Saxophones)
- Tuning Rod and cleaning cloth (Flutes only)
- Instrument in working condition
- Flip Folder-(Freshmen students, remember some of you will have a different marching horn than in middle school...your old flip folder and lyre may or may not work)
- *Clarinet players must have a Vandoren 5RV Lyre mouthpiece*
- *Alto Saxophone players must have a Selmer C Star mouthpiece*
- Lyre
- **Pencil**

#### **Percussion**

- **Pencil**
- 3 ring binder
- Sheet Protectors
- Ear-Plugs

### **Other details regarding the summer band weeks:**

- We have three social activities scheduled. All students need to be in attendance for those activities. We are planning some great bonding times for our kids and with our size it is very important that everyone gets to know each other as soon as possible.
- We will take frequent water breaks during rehearsals. When we do take a water break, everyone is required to drink. No exceptions.
- Please try to wear light colored clothes...wearing black will absorb the heat and the sunlight.
- Any students on antibiotics for skin treatment should make sure they wear sunscreen as those make you much more sensitive to light and burning.
- Any absence from rehearsal for any reason should be communicated ahead of time to a director. Lack of communication will result in an unexcused absence and you may be pulled from the performing unit.
- Students should be picked up from rehearsal on time. The band directors will not leave until all students are picked up.
- Students need to begin memorizing their show music. This will be a part of their grade and it is vital to our success as a group
- All student athletes that have practice times that conflict with summer band, need to make sure they communicate that with Mr. Fulwood
- The band hall will open approximately one hour prior to each rehearsal time. Students may be dropped off early if necessary.
- There will always be an adult present at lunch while students are eating.