April 1, 2019

Dear Parents and Students:

Welcome to the 2019 - 2020 Fairfax Marching Rebels!
The upcoming season promises to be an exciting point of continued transition and growth for our program.

- Band Camp in August
- Performing at all FHS home football games
- Competitions on Saturdays in September and October
    - Transition to VMBC, a more competitive circuit
- Parades for Halloween, FHS Homecoming, Memorial Day, and the 4th of July
- New uniforms!

Please bear in mind the following:

BAND CAMP: Held during the first three weeks of August (Monday - Friday), Band Camp is our opportunity to set the trajectory for the upcoming season. Students learn and reinforce marching fundamentals, the music is memorized, and drill and visual elements can be taught with minimal distraction. We maximize our instructional time with our staff, which helps launch us into a season that will go by in the blink of an eye!

REHEARSALS:
In band, **every member is vital to the ensemble**: the success of the program depends on having everyone present as much as possible. **THIS IS ALSO FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY:** Our drill requires complex moves, resulting in a lot of metal moving around the field quickly. We need members at every event to make sure we all learn how to choreograph the elements together safely!

Rehearsals are held three times a week:

- Mondays from 3:30 - 6:00 pm
- Tuesdays from 6:30 - 8:45 pm
- Either Thursdays (6:30 - 8:45 pm) or Fridays (3:30 - 6:00 pm), dependant on the football schedule.

Competitions:
Our program is a standout presence in one of the most competitive areas for marching band in the country. Competitions are an opportunity for the ensemble to get valuable feedback to maximize the quality of our performance. By extension, students learn life lessons about preparation, excellence, and how far they can truly stretch and grow. A side benefit of this focus on process and growth is excellence that is recognized in competitive success.

Please complete your intent form!

It is essential that we know the size of next year's marching band. Our show is custom-designed for our group with the drill (formations) and music tailored to each student and instrument, so an accurate count is essential.

We need a firm commitment from everyone regarding their marching band participation so that we may plan accordingly. The earlier we can plan, the better the final product will be!

VOLUNTEER!

Many parents are wanting to help out, but often confused about how to get involved. The Band Boosters are essential to the functioning and financing of our band program, and they cannot accomplish what is needed without **you**! No prior experience is necessary: we have plenty of folks here to help you put your talents to the benefit of your children!

If you have questions about the boosters and would like to learn more, contact the Booster President at fhsbbpresident@gmail.com

STAY CONNECTED

There are new means of communication that are evolving all the time. While we will constantly evaluate our methods of communication, having something that is easy, concise, reliable, and effective is paramount.

The Boosters and Director use the following main methods of communication:

- The FHS Bands Facebook page: Search for "Fairfax HS Bands"
- Remind: Download the Remind app (FREE!!!) or text **@fairfaxmb** to **81010**
- Email through CHARMS. Fill out the contact information form to get in the loop!
- The band website: www.fhsbands.org
    - You can find our full calendar and subscribe
        - Once subscribed, you can select the ensembles/programs you want to see! Get only the content YOU need!

There is much to look forward to in the 2019 - 2020 season, and it all starts today! It will be a time of growth, perseverance, and striving for excellence in all things. It is an exciting time to be in Fairfax Bands; we've got the lion by the tail!

Please don't hesitate to email me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Patric Buchroeder
Director of Bands
Fairfax High School
pwbuchroeder@fcps.edu

2019 - 2020 MARCHING REBELS PAYMENTS

Payment Schedule

Marching Band Pre Season Fee:	$200	Due: July 3, 2019
Marching Band Course Materials Fee:	$130	Due: August 2, 2019

- Payment can be arranged via MySchoolBucks (preferred)
- Please make checks payable to **FHS Band**
- Include the **NAME of your student** in the memo field
- Checks can be mailed to:

Fairfax High School
Attn: Band Director
3501 Rebel Run
Fairfax, VA 22030

Please contact Mr. Buchroeder if you have any questions regarding payments at pwbuchroeder@fcps.edu.

TENTATIVE 2019 MARCHING REBELS CALENDAR AT-A-GLANCE

7/1-7/3	Parade Rehearsal (6 - 8 pm)
7/4	**City of Fairfax Independence Day Celebration Parade**
7/11, 7/18, 7/25	Summer Clinics (6 - 8 pm) - Optional, but encouraged!
8/5 - 8/9	Band Camp Week 1 (8 am - 5 pm)
8/12 - 8/16	Band Camp Week 2 (8 am - 8:30 pm)
8/19 - 8/23	Band Camp Week 3 (8 am - 5 pm)
8/23	Community Preview Tailgate: Cookout @ 5 pm, Perform @ 7
8/26	First Day of School - **Regular rehearsal schedule begins**
8/30	**Football Game @ Oakton HS**
9/6	**Football Game vs. Wakefield HS**
9/20	**Football Game vs. Langley HS**
9/21	**Battle on the Blue Ridge (TBD)**
9/27	**Football Game vs. Annandale HS (Homecoming)**
10/5	**Cavalcade of Bands**
10/18	**Football Game vs. Robinson**
10/19	**Parade of Champions @ JMU (TBD)**
10/25	**Football vs. Lake Braddock (Senior Night)**
10/26	**VBODA Marching Band Assessment (TBD)**
11/2	**VMBC Championships (TBD)**

2019 FHS MARCHING Band T-SHIRT (Required!)

- T-shirts are a **required** part of the Marching Rebels uniform.
- Each member gets **one free t-shirt** included with their band fees.
- Purchase additional shirts for students or parents for $12 each ($14 for 2XL & up).

FREE SHIRT

Student Name:

Class (circle one): FR SO JR SR Instrument:

Home Phone:

FREE SHIRT: Student t-shirt size (circle one):S M L XL 2XL 3XL

EXTRA SHIRTS

Include check payable to "FHS Band Boosters" and please **write your student's name in the check memo field.**

Additional t-shirts ($12 each): S M L XL

S M L XL

S M L XL

S M L XL

Additional t-shirts ($14 each): 2XL 3XL

2XL 3XL

TOTAL PAYMENT ENCLOSED: $ _____

RETURN FORM with payment (if applicable) to the band office by July 3 or mail by July 22 to:

Fairfax High School
Attn: Band Director
3501 Rebel Run
Fairfax, VA 22030

FHS MARCHING REBELS

2019-2020 STATEMENT OF INTENT

Please return this form to the FHS band office or to your band director by Friday, June 7, 2019 in order to reserve your spot!

I have read the information contained in this FHS Bands welcome packet.

My child will participate in the 2019 FHS Marching Band, including band camp, performances, and competitions. I understand that the 2019 Pre Season fee is **non-refundable**.

STUDENTS – I understand the responsibility of being an FHS Marching Rebel and am ready to give 100% of my efforts to my fellow band members and the marching show. I fully intend to finish the marching season, and will perform to the best of my ability at EVERY rehearsal and performance.

Student name (please print):_____

Student e-mail (please print):_____

Grade Level in 2019 - 2020 (circle one): 9 10 11 12

Are you a rookie (have not done Marching Band or Color Guard before)? YES NO

Marching Instrument: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Parent e-mail (please print): _____

Phone number: _____

Student signature: _____Date:_____

Parent/guardian signature: _____Date:_____