



Festus Bands

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TO: Festus High School Marching Band Members & Parents
FROM: Stephanie Sekelsky, Director of Bands
DATE: July 5, 2021
RE: Marching Band Information

Hello! I hope this letter finds you well and enjoying some family time. Summer is flying by us and we're gearing up for a fantastic Festus Marching Tiger season! Right now we are treating everything as if we are moving forward without any interruptions. Things may still change depending on Covid-19 and its variants, but hopefully not. Thank you for your continued adaptability! For camp, masks will be optional for the inside activities and we continue to keep social distancing as much as possible.

PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE LETTER as this letter has several purposes and much information: 1.) 2021 Marching Band Calendar - see the back of this sheet; 2.) Uniform checkout form, procedures - see attached document; 3.) Marching Band shoes and gloves information, read below; and 4.) Band Parent meeting dates, membership form - see attached sheet.)

The Marching Band fee is \$65 this year. The fee will include meals for the entire band at home football games during 3rd quarter via the Band Boosters. Like before, the fee also funds band T-shirts, drill design, supplies, dry-cleaning, etc. Although we allow for uniform dry-cleaning and maintenance costs at the end of the season, if the uniform becomes soiled during the season, **please have it dry-cleaned immediately**. The snap-in collars **are machine washable**. Long-worn stains are very difficult to remove, please be vigilant.

If you are a rookie member, you'll need marching shoes. The shoes will be available to size and order during the first week of practice. Cost for new shoes is \$36. Returning band members may also purchase marching shoes. Black cotton gripper long-wrist gloves will be ordered for \$4 at this time, too. You may make out one check for the fees, shoes & gloves for the total amount (\$105) payable to "***Festus High School***" and turn it in with the uniform check-out sheet. We also offer the ability to pay online through Charms using **AffiniPay**, which is similar to paypal. Simply log into your Charms account to pay online. Please don't combine the school check with the Band Booster membership check. If you have any questions about the fees, shoes, etc., please email Mrs. Sekelsky at sekelskystephanie@festusedu.com. We work to accommodate everyone. Uniform check-out will start with Seniors and Juniors on Friday, July 30 at noon. Sophomores will be Monday, August 2 at noon and Freshmen August 3 at noon.

For the July/Aug rehearsals, dress as cool and comfortable as possible; we will be outside most of the time each morning, 8 am to 12 pm can be warm this time of year. Wear comfortable **shoes & SOCKS**, too! (No sandals or flip-flops). Drink plenty of water and **EVERYONE MUST bring personal water jugs**. If extreme hot weather is expected, we will move rehearsals up one hour, to 7am-11am.

If you're asking yourself if these rehearsals are important, each day of rehearsal is equal to a week of regular class time. That's right, miss one day and you're behind by a week! In the event of an unavoidable absence, ***please let Mrs. Sekelsky know as soon as you receive this letter***. (Thanks to those who've already let me know!) Reminder, work is **an avoidable absence**, and **will not be considered excused**.

Any questions or concerns? Email, please!
Enjoy the rest of your summer!

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