20 April 2020

Dear AHS Band Parents and Students:

The time has come to make plans for the 2020-2021 Marching and Concert band seasons. Please take time to review the summer schedule and all other information on our website. This schedule is very important. Remember that all doctor appointments, work schedules, senior pictures, Driver’s Ed training, college visits, and other conflicts must be worked out to avoid conflicts with our band schedules. All summer rehearsals will take place at Arlington High School. Staff and chaperones will assist in the operation of our summer activities.

If you need to use a school instrument, you must complete the instrument checkout form, which must be signed by a parent/guardian, and submitted with the stated usage fee. When the form has been returned to the directors, an instrument(s) will be assigned. All instruments are in working order when assigned to the student for use. Students are responsible for the upkeep of instruments while in their possession. Instruments can be picked up at New Member Camp. Please arrive 30 minutes early if you will need to rent a school instrument.

It is vital that we have a health form on file for each student. A health form can be found on the website. Please do not use a health form from previous years as we update our forms yearly. Make certain this form is filled out completely (including all insurance information) and that it is signed by the student’s parent/legal guardian. Please attach a photocopy of any insurance cards to the health form. These health forms are due no later than the first day of Band Camp (July 20, 2020). *Students will not be able to participate without a completed form on file*.

Also, on the website is the contract and student conduct agreement, which must be filled out and signed by the parent/guardian and student. then returned, along with your initial fee payment ASAP. Remember, the health form for all students is due no later than Monday, ***July 20, 2020***, signed by a parent/guardian. These forms must be turned in on time in order to participate in the AHS Band. *According to ACS policy, any fees paid between April 15 and June 30 must be made in the form of a money order or cashiers check to Arlington High School.* Please make out your initial deposit in this fashion. Place all payments in an envelope, marked with student’s name and purpose of payment. This envelope should be deposited in the locked white box located in the AHS Band Room. Please do not send/leave checks at the AHS Main Office.

Band Camp is scheduled for Monday, July 20- Thursday, July 30at Arlington High School. The cost of band camp is $50 per child. Each student will be responsible for either bringing lunch to school or going out for their meal. *All students must leave campus for dinner.* Parents should make arrangements for students to carpool with others if they cannot provide a ride. If a student is planning to leave campus for meals, a note must be received from a parent/guardian giving permission for the student to leave campus. If a note is not present, the student will not leave campus.

All students are required to have tennis shoes (worn with socks) for rehearsals (low-top recommended for easier flexing of the foot). We recommend students not wear brand new shoes as the grass may be wet in the morning. No sandals, crocs, or flip-flops will be allowed. Outside rehearsals will get hot! Students are urged to bring their own filled water jug (marked with name) for extra fluids. We will provide water and Gatorade during outside rehearsals, but it is still recommended that students bring filled water bottles/coolers. Students should start hydrating and eating healthy meals before band camp to prepare your body for the heat and exercise. All students should take steps to protect themselves from the sun – use a high SPF sunscreen that is water/sweatproof.

Each section may require additional items:

* **Percussion** – brimmed hat (to shade the face/ears/neck, required sticks/mallets, music, pencil,  instrument (provided by school)
* **Woodwinds** – brimmed hat, at least four playable reeds, music, flip folder, pencil, lyre,  instrument, instrument care supplies (cork grease, swab, etc.), and pouch (given by squad leader)
* **Brass** – hat, valve oil, music, flip folder, pencil, lyre, instrument care supplies, instrument, and  pouch (given by squad leader).
* **Guard** – hat/head covering, pencil, pad, pouch (given by leaders)

All new and returning students should be aware of our pick-up and drop-off procedures for all rehearsals, performances, and activities at Arlington High School. All students must be picked up and dropped off in the student parking lot*.* Students may not be picked up or dropped off in the parking lot immediately adjacent to the band room/fine arts wing (faculty parking lot). Students may not be picked up or dropped off along any part of the street on school property. Please understand that this is a school policy implemented to keep our students safe. If this policy is ignored by whoever is picking up or dropping off your child, we will be forced to remove your child from participating in upcoming performances. Please work with us to keep our students safe during pickup and drop off times, including meal breaks.

If you should need to contact us, we can be reached via email at timothy.simpson@acsk-12.org or samuel.schirmer@acsk-12.org. We are looking forward to a great year and many successes for the AHS Band!

Sincerely,

Timothy Simpson

Sam Schirmer

Band Directors

Arlington High School