



SUMMIT HIGH SCHOOL JAGUAR BAND

Dear Incoming Freshman,

We are very excited to have you in the Summit High School Band Program. The Summit Band is one of the premier organizations at Summit High School. In just seven years, students such as you have helped build the reputation of this band as one of the elite band programs in the area and the state. In addition to a great music education, students in band learn the following: time management, communication, creative thinking, critical thinking, problem solving, responsibility, respect, leadership, teamwork, and pride. The band is also a great social and academic support group. The Summit Band is the largest single organization on campus; therefore, if there is anything a student needs, there will always be another band student there to help at any point throughout the day. The information in this letter should help answer many questions; however, if there is the slightest question on any issue, please feel free to contact any of the high school band directors via email or telephone. We are looking forward to the addition of another great freshman class to our already talented and hard working upperclassmen.

What activities are involved in the Summit Band program?

The following fall under the umbrella of the Summit Band: Jaguar Marching Band, Wind Symphony, Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Colorguard, Winterguard, Front Ensemble, Drumline, and Jazz Band.

When can I check out a school owned instrument?

The following marching instruments will be available to be checked out to incoming members during the Incoming Freshman and Transfer Student Marching Camp held May 18th - 21st - Marching French Horn, Marching Baritone, Bass Trombone, Sousaphone, Battery Percussion, and Mallet/Auxiliary Percussion.

The following concert instruments will be available to be checked out to incoming members during the last week of school and throughout the summer – Piccolo, E-flat Clarinet, Oboe, Bassoon, Bass Clarinet, Contra Bass Clarinet, Tenor Saxophone, Bari Saxophone, French Horn, Euphonium, Bass Trombone, Tuba, and Percussion Instruments.

Fees for school owned instruments will be due when students check out their marching uniform on August 8th. (see calendar).

Are all students who sign up for band involved in the Jaguar Marching Band?

Yes. One of the first activities with which you will be involved is the marching band. The Jaguar Marching Band consists of **all** students enrolled in the band program regardless of the band class in which they are placed. There are two levels of marching band, Junior Varsity and Varsity. Students will receive audition information for the Varsity level marching band during the Incoming Freshman and Transfer Student Marching Camp held May 18th – 21st (see attached calendar). There are three weeks of full band camp in August. Band camp is **mandatory** for all students who will be signing up for band at Summit. At this camp, we will learn the UIL competition show, along with all stand tunes. There is no cost for this camp. The Varsity Marching Band rehearses Monday-Thursday from 3:15pm – 5:15pm when school is in session. Ironically, this time of year, when students have more time commitments, is the time of year when we typically have the **least** amount of students ineligible due to failing grades.



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What are the financial obligations for band?

Our stance on music education has always been, and will continue to be, that we do not want any student to be unable to participate due to financial issues. We will work with any student and parent in a discrete manner to help in any way possible. Included with this letter is a list of fees and supplies that each student will need for band. This list will explain each student's financial obligation, and also what the school and band boosters contribute. Fees are due when students are fitted for their marching and concert uniforms on August 8th (see calendar).

What are the Summit Band Boosters?

The Band Booster organization is a vital element of the band program at Summit High School invested and committed to all students in the Summit Band. The Band Boosters conduct fundraising activities and provide numerous support services for the band. The success of our band is highly dependent on dedicated and active band booster parents. All parents are invited and encouraged to be a part of the booster program. Please be involved with your child by becoming an active member of the band boosters.

Is there a meeting coming up?

Yes, there is an important meeting for all incoming freshman band students and their parents on Monday, April 6th at 7:00pm in the Summit High School Band Hall.

What will happen at the meeting?

Important information regarding everything you need to know to get started in the Summit Band will be discussed at this meeting. The evening will start with a short performance by the Wind Symphony, followed by a performance by our Varsity Winterguard, and ending with a brief meeting and presentation by our band booster organization.

Other questions?

The best source of information is our website, www.summitband.com, but please do not hesitate to call or email any of the directors with questions. See you all on April 6th at 7:00pm!

Sincerely,

Brad Bonebrake
Director of Bands
bonebr@mansfieldisd.org

Steve Shadman
Associate Band Director
shadst@mansfieldisd.org

Shawn Hart
Associate Band Director
hartsh@mansfieldisd.org

Nicki Neugent
Colorguard Instructor
neugentn@gmail.com