

FOREST PARK MARCHING BRUIN BAND

2018 HANDBOOK



Mr. Rob Specketer, Director
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www.bruinband.net
@FPHSBruinBand

Greetings Students and Parents!

Welcome to the 2018 season of the Marching Bruin Band! I hope everyone is ready for another great year! We have an exciting show planned, but every year always comes down to a few questions. How good do **you** want to be? How hard do **you** want to work? What will **you** do to make this band better?

Before the season can begin, it is important we review the guidelines of the Marching Bruin Band; some of them may be familiar, while others may be new. It is crucial to know the expectations from the very beginning so that we can have a successful year. Please take the time to review this handbook, then make sure to fill out the commitment and financial forms.

Returning members are responsible for paying \$265.00 in fees to participate in the Marching Bruin Band, and new members are responsible for paying \$295.00. The extra \$30.00 for new members covers their marching band shoes and gloves. This payment will be broken up into two separate payments, but other options are available if necessary. The first payment of \$100.00 (\$130.00 for new members) will be due on Thursday, May 31, 2018. This will secure your spot on the field, as well as go towards show development and band camp fees. The remaining balance will be due by the first day of band camp, August 6, 2018. Please reach out with any questions about the payment, or to set up an alternative payment plan.

I am very excited to begin another year of marching band at Forest Park! Each year brings new opportunities for improvement and growth. Every member of this group has so much to offer and together we will achieve greatness!

This is **your band!** Make it great!

Rob Specketer, *Director of Bands*
Forest Park High School

From the Band Boosters

Dear Parents,

The Forest Park High School Bruin Band Boosters is organized exclusively for the purpose of providing support and resources to improve, enhance and maintain the band program at Forest Park. The Boosters operate as a non-profit, tax-exempt organization in accordance with Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. We fundamentally work to recognize, promote and instill the highest caliber of band student consistent with the objectives and instruction of the band program under the leadership of Mr. Specketer. Your participation is vital to our efforts.

Membership in the BBB is open to any parent or legal guardian who has a student enrolled in the band program at Forest Park High School. The boosters have oversight governance from an executive board that provides for the annual planning and fund-raising necessary to sustain the level of performance and enrichment that helps our students succeed in the classroom and auditorium, on the field and in our community.

As a thirteen-time Virginia Honor Band, this caliber of program requires more financial resources than Prince William County can provide. This is where the BBB comes in; our budget provides the necessary resources to support our 3 concert bands, the Marching Bruin Band and Color Guard, jazz band, and pep band. TAG DAY is our biggest fundraiser. The Marching Band goes door-to-door asking for tax-deductible donations this August 25, 2018.

If you would like to make a donation to support the other Bruin Band programs, please make your check payable to **FPHS BBB** and mail it to Forest Park High School, Bruin Band Boosters, 15721 Forest Park Dr, Woodbridge, VA 22193. If you prefer, you may support our band program by choosing **#16478 with the Combined Federal Campaign** as well as utilization of Amazon.

I invite you to get involved in the FPHS BBB and to visit our website: <http://www.bruinband.net>. If you have any questions or want to learn more about the BBB, you may contact me via e-mail at president@bruinband.net.

Regards,

Tracy Jack, Band Booster President

ABOUT THE MARCHING BRUIN BAND

The Marching Bruin Band is an extension of the band curriculum at Forest Park High School. The band's purpose is to give students in all different mediums of music experience in the marching arts. Our marching band consists of members from the band, orchestra, and choir, and offers non-musicians the opportunity to participate through our color guard. All members of our ensemble add to our overall performance. *Members of the Marching Bruin Band receive ½ credit on their transcript.*

MARCHING BRUIN BAND ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

Absences

When joining the Marching Bruin Band, you are joining a group of students and staff that work hard for success. Therefore, any absence affects every member of the ensemble, no matter what section they're in. If a student must miss practice due to illness, it is helpful for the student to let the band director know by email or phone. The student must provide a note from a parent or guardian at the next rehearsal. Jobs/babysitting/etc. are not an appropriate excuse for missing rehearsal. The calendar is available enough ahead of time to avoid such conflicts.

After School Help

After school help should be scheduled with teachers on **Mondays, Tuesdays or Thursdays**. Sectional time can be missed if necessary to make up assignments or receive extra help. After school help with a teacher on Wednesdays will be allowed only through prior communication between the teacher and Mr. Specketer.

Clubs and Activities

MBB members are often very active in the school through other clubs and activities. While we celebrate our well-rounded students, these clubs and activities cannot interfere with rehearsal attendance. It is your responsibility to receive information from your club sponsor and be on time to rehearsal.

Communication

More often than not, attendance issues can be solved through communication between the Mr. Specketer, the student, the parent, or the student's teacher. Be responsible and plan your schedule ahead of time to avoid unexcused absences.

Fundraising

The Marching Bruin Band has two major fundraisers each year, one per semester. The first is **Tag Day**, which is a requirement of all MBB members. Tag Day is when members of the MBB go out into the community to request donations for the upcoming season. This is a very successful fundraiser for us, but it requires 100% participation. The second fundraiser is the **Forest Park Indoor Classic**, a Winterguard and Drumline competition held in the spring. Dates and details are TBA, but participation is expected of all MBB members!

MARCHING BRUIN BAND GRADING

Rehearsal Grade (40%)

Attendance will be taken daily. Each rehearsal will count towards student's Rehearsal Grade. Students will receive a grade of "0" for the rehearsal if any of the following apply:

Not having materials - Drill, Music, or Instrument (ANY of the three)
Inappropriate Behavior
Unexcused Absence from Rehearsal

Performance Grade (60%)

Attendance will be taken at each event. Students will receive a grade of "0" for the performance if any of the following apply:

Inappropriate Behavior
Absence from the Event*

**If a student must miss a performance due to an excused absence (illness, death in the family, pre-arranged absence with Mr. Specketer), their grade will only be excused on a case by case basis per the director.*

General Performance Expectations

1. Only band members are allowed to sit with the band! This will be enforced by the drum majors, captains, and section leaders.
2. No gum during rehearsals or performances.
3. The full uniform, band shirt, shorts, hat, gloves, etc., must be worn at all times unless instructed by the director.
4. There is absolutely NO cell phone use prior to/during a performance.
- 5. There is NO "PDA" while in uniform, on the bus, in the band room, etc. Inappropriate behavior like this will not be tolerated.**

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

While school is in session, we will use the following rehearsal schedule*.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Sectionals 2:30 - 4:00pm	Evening 5:30 - 8:00pm	After School 2:30 - 5:00pm	Evening 5:30 - 8:00pm	Only before competitions 2:30 - 5:00pm

Percussion/Color Guard Expectations

Drumline, Front Ensemble, and Color Guard will have additional rehearsals scheduled. These rehearsals are required for participation in those groups.

**Extra rehearsals may be scheduled if necessary. The most up to date schedule can be found on www.bruinband.net*

MARCHING BRUIN BAND UNIFORM

Since Forest Park's opening in 2000, our "white pants" have become an icon in Prince William County. We *LOVE* our uniforms, and therefore must treat them with care and respect. Not doing so could result in fees* assessed to student accounts.

Uniform Rules

- Band t-shirt and white shorts **MUST** be worn under the uniform – no colors or logo
- Long white socks must be worn – no ankle, golf, tennis or other short socks; no colors (such as on the heel) or logos
- Shoes should be cleaned **at home**, before each event
- Scrubs are to be worn in the stands and other times as assigned, and must be worn tied firmly at the waist – scrubs are not a fashion statement; they are a piece of equipment designed to preserve the life of our uniform pants
- Scrub pant legs may be rolled up to prevent dragging on the ground as needed
- Hair must be worn tucked securely to fit under the uniform hat when in uniform
- No makeup, No jewelry (rings, earrings, watches), No fingernail polish.
- Uniform-friendly food only when in uniform (No pizza, nachos, chocolate, etc)

[1] FEES MAY BE AS MUCH AS, BUT NOT LIMITED TO: Jackets \$350.00; Pants 125.00; Plume 15.00; Hat 50.00; Hat Box 15.00; Uniform Bag 10.00; Buttons 2.00; Scrubs 10.00; Uniform Hangers 2.00 each; Gloves 2.00 pair; Socks 2.00 pair; Hair Accessories 1.00; Food Infringement 5.00

WHAT TO KNOW FOR BAND CAMP

Band camp occurs in August each year. It is essential to the success of our program for the entire season. It is a time for students to get to know each other, as well as the time when we learn the entire marching band show, including music, drill, and choreography.

Time

Students should be *on the field*, ready to begin rehearsal/warm-up at the scheduled times. Arrive early so you have time to prepare for the rehearsal.

Meals

Meals will NOT be provided, and students are not allowed to leave the school grounds during camp.

Attire

Students should wear shorts, a light colored t-shirt, socks, and sneakers. Jeans, flip flops, and sandals will **not** be allowed during rehearsals. Students should also bring a spare pair of socks in case of rain. Students who are dressed inappropriately will be asked to find a change of clothes. If no change is available, the student will be sent home.

MARCHING BRUIN BAND INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF

Ben Pereyra

Assistant Director

Elisabeth Pereyra

Pit Instructor

Isabella Lowe

Brass Instructor

Alec Moser

Brass Instructor

Nick Ro

Percussion Instructor

Amy Sesay

Guard Instructor

What to Bring

- Water Bottle** (*Reusable, with your name on it.*)
- Sunscreen** (*Usually provided by band boosters, but have some just in case.*)
- Deodorant** (*Re-apply when necessary. Stick deodorant only, **no aerosols!***)
- Towel** (*A small hand towel will work, used for sweat/protecting hands while doing aerobics*)
- Lip Balm** (*Recommended with SPF protection*)
- Instrument w/ all accessories** (*Always have a spare reed or valve oil!*)
- Binder for Music/Handouts with clear plastic pages**
- Pencils**
- ALL MUSIC AND DRILL**

SCHEDULE

All dates and times are subject to minor changes or adjustments. The most up to date calendar can be found on www.bruinband.net.

BAND CAMP

August 6-10, 2018
1:00-9:00pm

August 13-17, 2018
1:00-9:00pm

August 21 and 23
5:00-8:00pm

Saturday, August 18, 2018 - Join us for our Preview Picnic! The students will give their first performance of the 2018 Marching Show, followed by a picnic and parent information presentation by the band boosters in the auditorium.

Thursday, August 23, 2018 - The MBB (Marching Bruin Band) will perform for the freshman orientation event at Forest Park in the morning. Details TBA.

TENTATIVE 2018 MARCHING SEASON

(Also available at www.bruinband.net)

August 24, 2018 - **AWAY vs Colgan HS**

August 25, 2018 - **TAG DAY (Required for all members)**

August 31, 2018 - **AWAY vs. Osbourn Park HS**

September 14, 2018 - **HOME vs Centreville HS**

September 15, 2018 - **WOODBRIIDGE VIKING INVITATIONAL**

September 21, 2018 - **HOME vs. Woodbridge HS**

September 22, 2018 - **COLGAN COMPETITION**

September 29, 2018 - **RIVERBEND HS EMERALD CLASSIC and HERMITAGE HS**

October 5, 2018 - **HOME vs Freedom HS**

October 13, 2018 - **SHENANDOAH VALLEY MARCHING INVITATIONAL**

October 19, 2018 - **HOME vs. Gar-Field HS (Homecoming)**

October 20, 2018 - **VBODA Marching Assessment**

November 2, 2018 - **HOME vs. Hylton HS (Senior Night)**

December 1, 2018 - **Greater Manassas Christmas Parade**

2018 FOREST PARK HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BRUIN BAND

Parent/Student Contract, Permission to Travel and Personal Information Form

The FPBS BBB thank you in advance for your participation in what we know will be a great experience for your student. It is imperative that we have the manpower and support to make our marching band goals become reality through the planned fundraising activities. We also need parental support at games, competitions and band camp to assist in the task of putting a great show on the field. THANK YOU for allowing your child to share a great experience!

The marching band fee for Fall 2018 is \$265. This fee does not include extra program T-shirts (beyond the two T-shirts the student receives). The fee also does not include fees for shoes. Shoes for instrumental marchers, called "Dinkles", are \$30.00. Shoes for the colorguard are \$35.00. This payment, and sizing information, is due with the initial payment. **A minimum payment of \$100 (\$130/\$135 if ordering shoes) is due by May 31, 2018.** The balance of the fee, including payment for any additional program T-shirts, is due at the first day of band camp, August 6, 2018. Payment may be made by cash or check.

Student Agreement

I understand the commitment that I make to the Forest Park Marching Band. I understand that if I choose not to follow rules and participate in 100% of activities that my grade may be affected and my participation could be limited for the remainder of the season. **I also commit to participating in TAG DAY and the Forest Park Indoor Classic (spring).**

I have read the uniform rules and guidelines that go along with participating in the Forest Park High School Marching Bruin Band and agree with the stipulations placed upon me pertaining to the use of an issued uniform.

I understand and acknowledge that the PWCS Code of Behavior shall be adhered to at all times during all activities, and that my failure to comply with the Code of Behavior may result in my being returned home at family expense and/or other disciplinary measures as appropriate. Further, I agree that my family will be liable for any and all damages or additional charges that may be incurred as a result of my behavior.

Parents Agreement

My child and I both have read and understand the rules and guidelines stated in this handbook. I understand that my student's participation fees are due at the start of Marching Band camp.

As the parent of a student in the Forest Park Marching Band, I realize the importance of assisting in my child's experience with the Marching Band. I will help my child in his/her commitment to the band by having them to and from rehearsals and performances on time, to help them keep their academic requirements in focus, and making a personal commitment to participate in ONE event as a demonstration of my support to the Marching Bruin Band.

I hereby give permission for my son/daughter to attend and participate in all activities associated with the FPBS Bruin Band program, including *away football games* and *competitions*. I understand that my child will be expected to follow all Prince William County Rules and Regulations while on each trip.

STUDENT NAME _____

STUDENT SIGNATURE _____ Date _____

PARENT SIGNATURE _____ Date _____

(Please complete information section on back)

Student's T-shirt Size: _____

Shoe Size (*New Marchers/Returning members needing new shoes only.*) _____
(*\$30.00 for instrumental marchers/\$35.00 for color guard*)

Instrument: _____

Grade (circle one): Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior

Parent (#1) Name: _____

Cell Phone (Parent #1): _____

Parent Email (#1): _____

Parent (#2) Name: _____

Cell Phone (Parent #2): _____

Parent Email (#2): _____

Student's Email: _____

Note: Information regarding marching band activities is primarily distributed by email. Phone numbers are required for emergency notifications only. The Forest Park High School Bruin Band Boosters will not provide your email address(s) or other personal information on this form to any other individuals or organizations.

Want to order additional 2018 Band T-shirts?

Parents – you can pre-order your own 2018 FPBS Bruin Band t-shirt; this is your chance to guarantee sizes. Delivery will be with the students' shirts at the end of band camp. Shirts are \$15.00 each. Payment is due with this order form. Please make checks out to "Forest Park Band Boosters".

Size	S	M	L	XL	2XL*	3XL*
Quantity						

*there is an additional \$5 cost for 2XL and 3XL items

Total Quantity: _____

Total Amount: \$ _____