

FIRST COLONIAL BAND NOTES

JULY 12TH, 2021

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Greetings FC Band Family,

I hope everyone is having a great (and much deserved) summer break so far. Even though it is summer, we are still very active with our programs at FC. Marching band conditioning is entering week 3, our color guard & drumline are hard at work, we have had the first car wash fundraiser of the summer, & we are just a few weeks to our first full ensemble rehearsal for marching band.

Over the next few weeks, we will be switching to a new office management system called CutTime, so be on the lookout in case your email service filters our communications in the spam or trash folder. We are aiming to have all of our members input into the system by the middle of August.

As we move to put the pandemic behind us, the road to rebuild our program is just beginning. Citywide, the enrollment in performing arts courses has dropped by over 30% compared to just a year ago. Virtual learning clearly had a negative effect on our courses & our ability to fundraise. To recover from this, we will be having multiple car wash fundraisers this summer (more info below), a full band fundraiser in September, & other events later in the year. To help rebuild our program, we have several exciting events planned over the course of the year to reach out to both our middle school feeders & help recruit at our feeder elementary schools. The more of our current students & families we can involve in this process, the better off we will be moving forward.

For those still on the fence about joining marching band—we still have a place for you & it is not too late to join. The full band has yet to rehearse & you are not behind! Contact me ASAP so we can get you in our show this year.

I hope everyone continues to have a great summer. Rest, relax, & enjoy this time off. I am eager to return to making music with everyone in September in our new, updated band room!

Musically Yours,

Luke Walker
Director of Bands
Tri-M Music Honor Society Advisor
Performing Arts Department Chair
PBIS Team Leader
First Colonial High School
www.fcband.org



FIRST COLONIAL HIGH SCHOOL

MARCHING BAND UPDATE

For those still interested in marching, it is not too late! Our full rehearsals do not begin until July 26 & band camp is not until the middle of August.

We are entering week 3 of conditioning & I am proud of all of the work our students have put in so far with our voluntary conditioning. At home, students have workouts each day they can submit via Flipgrid. In person, we are in week 2 of conditioning (music, strength, cardio). I strongly encourage each member to spend time outdoors to acclimate to the heat & to spend some time doing light jogging to build up the endurance needed for our season. Each year, we have 1-2 students that are not prepared for the summer heat or physical demands & the first few weeks are often a struggle. Please do what you can to prepare yourself for our season.

With our first full rehearsals a few weeks away, I want to remind everyone of our summer schedule:

- Drumline Rehearsal: July 13, 5-8pm
- Drumline Rehearsal: July 20-22, 5-8pm
- Fundamentals Camp: July 26-29, 1-8pm
- Full Band Rehearsal: August 3, 5, 10, 12, 5-8pm
- Pre-Camp Rehearsal: August 16-19, 5-9pm
- Lock-In Rehearsal: August 20-21, 5pm-10am
- Band Camp: August 23-27, 8am-6pm
- Post-Camp Rehearsal: August 30-September 1, 5-8pm

We will be measuring all members for uniforms/costumes/shoes at our July Fundamentals Camp & the rehearsals in early August. If you will not be at those rehearsals due to family vacations, please contact Mr. Walker so we can get your measurements ASAP.



KITTY HAWK

SUMMER CAR WASH FUNDRAISERS

A huge THANK-YOU to all that participated in our first car wash fundraiser. We raised just under \$1,600 in donations in large part due to the large number of student & parent volunteers. Moving forward, we have 3 more car washes this summer. We need at least 10-12 student volunteers & 2-4 parents for each car wash. We understand if you cannot commit to the full length, we are just as happy to have you for part of a fundraiser.

Saturday, July 24th AutoZone (Little Neck) 9am-3pm

Saturday, August 7th AutoZone (Little Neck) 9am-3pm

Saturday, August 14th AutoZone (Little Neck) 9am-3pm



FCBB JULY MEETING

WHEN

TUESDAY, JULY 13TH, 6PM

WHERE

**1272 MILL DAM ROAD
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

MORE INFORMATION

We will hold our monthly meeting on Tuesday, July 13th at 6pm in person in the band room at FCHS.

If you are a parent/grandparent/guardian/caregiver, you are invited to be a member of the First Colonial Band Boosters. Meetings are held monthly where we discuss program direction, fundraisers, student events, & much more. All are encouraged to participate & help make our program the best that it can be.

To join FCBB in BAND, click [here](#).

VBCPS / FCHS INSTRUMENT CHECK OUT

Instruments are available for check out for the summer. Priority will be given to students participating in marching band, auditioning for SRO in the fall, & then to those studying privately. After that, all students that are enrolled for band in the fall will be allowed to check out instruments based on availability. Please contact Mr. Walker if you would like to check out an instrument to be added to the waiting list & schedule an appointment.



ABOUT US

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