**CMHS BAND CAMP 2015 / SUMMER ACTIVITIES**

June 1, 2015

Dear CM Marching Eagle & Parent!

This letter is to inform you of our summer activities as well as all pertinent information regarding our highly anticipated 2015 Summer Marching Band Camp for the CM Marching Eagles. Several forms regarding supplies, student health, parent assistance, and the year’s calendar are also enclosed.

**UNIFORM FITTINGS**: Fittings will occur during the lunch break of band camp as follows: Seniors – Monday, August 3, Juniors –Tuesday, August 4, Sophomores – Wednesday, August 5, Freshmen – Thursday, August 6, and 8th Grade Volunteers – Friday, August 7. Since fittings are **during your lunch break** PLAN ACCORDINGLY. (Students are always welcome to bring lunch with them to eat at this time.) Uniforms will be taken to the cleaners the second week of August to ensure that they are ready to wear the first week of September for our first performance.

**COLORGUARD:** We are welcoming Mrs. Jessica Ward (CM Science Dept.) as our new head coach for the CM “Golden Illusion” Colorguard. The 2015-16 squad has already received their summer schedules and will be working throughout the summer. They will be reviewing basics, learning pre-game, parade, and field show choreography.

**EAGLE DRUMLINE:** As in years past, I will continue summer drumline rehearsals. We are scheduled to meet in the CM Auditorium on most T/R in June/July from 2:00 – 4:00 PM. These rehearsals provide time to memorize new street cadences, bleacher features, parade music, and all field show music. The drumline is the heartbeat of the band! Please contact me if you cannot attend a rehearsal.

**MARCHING SEASON**: I have enclosed a calendar marking all rehearsals and performances for Fall 2015. I will inform you of any changes at my earliest convenience. I have tentatively scheduled the marching band for here competitive parades and one field competition. We will also perform at all civic ceremonies as well as any HS events (Homecoming / Pep Assemblies / etc.) We will continue our tradition of **MONDAY EVENING REHEARSALS** from **6 –8 PM** beginning **August 17.** Get your homework done in advance!

**CM MARCHING EAGLE BAND CAMP**: Band camp is scheduled for ONE week this summer from **AUGUST 3 - 7**. Practices will run from  **8:30 a.m. – 4:00 PM** as follows:

8:30 – 11:00 a.m. OUTSIDE marching basics / parade basics / parade marching (8th Grade Members Included)

11:00 – 12 PM FULL BAND inside rehearsal (Field Show Music / Pre-Game)

12 – 1:00 PM Lunch Break

1:00 – 2:00 PM INSIDE Sectionals / FULL BAND (Field Show Music / Memorization Work)

2:00 – 4:00 PM FIELD SHOW DRILL

Each student will be needed for these times Monday – Friday. This is the time that the district has given us for rehearsals. **IT IS VERY! IMPORTANT THAT ALL MEMBERS ATTEND THIS CAMP!** The ENTIRE field show and parade work will be taught at this time as well as basic marching fundamentals. It becomes very difficult and redundant re-teaching the same work for the first three weeks of school. If you know that you cannot make any part of this camp, PLEASE CONTACT ME ASAP! Also, if you know of someone who will be attending CMHS in the fall and would like to enroll in band, please share this information with them! As our field show drill is being written as you read this, it is important knowing how many members will be on the field for the final formations. I cannot change these once July starts!

**(*cont’d on back. . . . .)***

**CAMP ITEMS**: WATER, WATER, AND WATER! Make sure to stay hydrated and come fed! We are rehearsing in the evening and it can still be very humid. Light layers of light-colored clothing as well as hats / visors / sunglasses and 70+ SUNSCREEN is important. TENNIS SHOES!! or your marching shoes – ***NO SKATER SHOES!*** These have flat soles making it difficult to march with the correct foot position and posture.

**MUSIC**: The 2015 Field Show is entitled *Star Wars* and includes: *Themes from Star Wars, Cantina Band, Princess Leia’s Theme,* and *The Throne Room*. Our parade tune is entitled *Cuban Coffee* and is written with Latin flair.

Try this YouTube site for #1 & #3: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pu74yeOwP3A>

#2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UTT5oiqw1KA>

all 4 field tunes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y_Lyy7ypc9c>

Parade: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N4yMuDomqkk>

**ATTENDANCE:** It is **IMPERATIVE** that you learn to prioritize your homework, job, and other extra curricular activities. Band events are extremely important as a grade is given for each rehearsal and performance throughout the year. We are a PERFORMING ensemble! Our members enjoy working together as a team to display their immense talent AS A TEAM. If you are unsure of your commitment, this is not the group to be involved with as we are a HIGHLY INVOLVED FUNCTIONING GROUP OF CMHS. Please see the handbook regarding any questions you may have about attendance policies (This will be handed out and reviewed during band camp. The Handbook Policy Form found on its last page will need to be signed and returned before you will be allowed to participate in any performances.) **Student jobs** can pose a problem when students forget to ask off of work in advance – *DON’T LET THIS HAPPEN TO YOU!* I cannot excuse a student for work. It is not fair to all involved who have given their time and commitment to the band. I do fully understand that summer is a time for relaxing and family vacations. However, consider the importance each one of you has in our program: one “hole” on the field can really confuse the entire movement during rehearsals. (**NOTE:** Students excused from any performance/rehearsal will be required to turn in a short research paper to equal points allotted. More in the handbook on this.)

**ORDER FORM ITEMS:** Enclosed is an order form for our new members as well as returning members that may need to replace any item. Polo shirts are worn for pep band games, community and school events, and in place of uniforms in extreme heat. We use the same design each year so this is a one-time purchase only. Shirts in GREAT condition may be traded in for larger sizes if you’ve outgrown your old one. Marching Band shoes are also a one-time only purchase as well as gloves, folios, and lyres. Students are responsible for taking care of these items.

**PLEASE HAVE ALL PAYMENTS READY WITH ORDERS AT THE TIME OF BAND CAMP.**

**ACT TEST DATES:** Test dates for 2015-16 are: Sept. 13, Oct. 25, Dec. 13, Feb. 7, Apr 18, and June 13. Please plan accordingly. We **DO** have an activity scheduled for Oct. 25, 2015.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** Please call at 618.377.7230 x.277 or email at: lhoke@bethalto.org

So let’s get busy! Look over your music, number your measures, practice through on your own. Looking forward to a BANDTASTIC YEAR!

Musically Yours!

Ms. Lori Hoke, Director of Bands