

Douglas S. Freeman Bands

Douglas Southall Freeman High School • 8701 Three Chopt Rd. • Henrico, VA 23229
www.freemanband.org • (804) 673-3700

June 2022

Dear Band Parents and Students,

Welcome to another season of great music with the Freeman Band program! The Marching Mavericks Staff has been working hard preparing for our 2022 Field Show: *Stargazer*. Section Leaders will be reaching out to their section members throughout the summer. Please encourage your students to ask their section leaders any questions they may have. Our student leadership is here to help everyone, especially our new members! Everyone's role in this band is equally important, both musically and visually. Please keep this in mind as we progress through the season!

Summer Schedule

Monday Evening Rehearsals – If students are in town, they are expected to be at rehearsal.
July 18 and July 25 from 6pm-8pm.

Band Camp (Mandatory for all members)

July 28, 9am – Student Leadership

August 1-2, 9am-12pm – All New Members, Percussion, Color Guard

August 3-4, 9am-3pm – All New Members, 2nd Year Marchers, Percussion, Color Guard

August 8-11, 8am-5pm – Full Band and Color Guard

August 15-18, 8am-5pm – Full Band and Color Guard

August 22 – 6pm – Preview Performance and Family Picnic

August 24, 5:30pm-8pm – Post Camp Rehearsal - Full Band and Color Guard

Marching Band Forms and Fees

The [Marching Band Information and Fee Form](#) can be found on our [website](#). Completion of this form is due no later than **July 1, 2022**. The total fee amount is determined by the base fee plus any clothing items that your student will need for the season.

Once payments are being accepted please email please email Susan Kooch (band booster treasurer) at DSFBand1@gmail.com if payment is not possible by the due date to set up an alternate payment plan. We are always more than willing to be flexible as long as a good faith effort is made. The Boosters maintains an Angel Fund to assist families for whom the fees are a hardship. If you wish to request assistance or have any questions, please send an email to DSFband1@gmail.com. All requests are held in confidence. THANK YOU!

Band Camp Info and Tips

Marching band is an athletic activity! Appropriate dress is crucial. Students should wear light-colored t-shirts, shorts of appropriate length, hats, sunglasses if desired and comfortable sneakers with socks. **No sandals or flip flops, and no bare feet!** A water-resistant sunscreen is *strongly* recommended. **Please keep in mind that the dress code stipulated in the Henrico County Code of Conduct does apply!**

Eat Breakfast each morning! What you eat and drink will directly affect your ability to rehearse, and thus affect the overall band's productivity. Coolers of water will be available, though all students should bring their own water as well. **Keeping yourself properly hydrated is of utmost importance!**

All students need to bring their own lunch (lots of fruits and lighter foods) each day. **Students may not leave school grounds during Band Camp hours.**

Each student should be fully prepared for camp with the following items each day:

1. Instrument and accessories such as reeds, valve oil, etc.
2. Pencil with an eraser
3. Sturdy three-ring binder with sheet protectors.
4. Red, White & Blue Poker chips (to help in learning drill)
5. Your music
6. Percussionists should have fully equipped stick bags (more info coming soon)

Our goal for Band Camp 2022 is to have the show well under way for the performance and picnic at the end of camp, so come ready to work hard and be successful. We are back and I'm very excited for what I am sure is going to be a great year!

Sincerely,



Rob Blankenship,
Director of Bands

PS: As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me via email at rpblankenship@henrico.k12.va.us. Please check our website (www.freemanband.org) frequently for any changes and updates.