



Ted Rausch
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July 18, 2021

Dear Band member:

Hello everyone! It has been a long year and a half of persevering through the covid restrictions that have affected our music program. I am excited to be sending you this letter as we will be starting band in full next month! This has been a long time in waiting! As band members, we need to get a head start on the upcoming school year and most importantly, the marching band football season. As the summer starts to begin, I wanted all families to be aware of the upcoming events that take place in August. The first official “band” event will be on Wednesday and Thursday, August 11th & 12th. These will be two full music rehearsals from **9:00am-12:00noon** for ALL students.

Next, is the important week of Band Camp. Band camp dates are:

Wednesday	August 18	9am – 3pm	Monday	August 23	2pm – 8pm
Thursday	August 19	9am – 3pm	Tuesday	August 24	2pm – 8pm
Friday	August 20	9am – 3pm	Wednesday	August 25	2pm – 6pm* (Show & Cookout at 6pm)

I can’t stress enough the importance of this week. We will spend time learning new music, reviewing how to march, learning the half-time show, and building the strong bond that exists in **your** program. Each student should have received these dates at the close of the school year. I ask that students with work conflicts please arrange your schedule to attend this important week, and yes, you have to go. Also remember to bring a bagged lunch/dinner each day and plenty of water.

On **WEDNESDAY, August 25th**, there will be the annual family cookout. The cookout this year will be after band camp in the evening. We will have our annual end of camp performance on the varsity field for ALL parents, families, and friends starting at **6:00pm**. This is a great time to “showcase” what we have learned so far during camp and to give a preview of this year’s show. After the performance, we invite everyone to stay for our cookout. The *Music Boosters* will be sponsoring the cookout and **all family members are invited to come!!!!**

I am eager to start this years’ band program as we are expecting over 70 students between the Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Color Guard, and Dance Team. Both Symphonic and Wind Ensemble members are combined for Marching Band. Students enrolled in Symphonic Band or Wind Ensemble are automatically enrolled in Marching Band. You will find that our marching band is different from other schools, as we do not compete. I try to offer different performance opportunities each year so that students can take part in unique opportunities.

There will be several forms that we are going to ask that each family complete and return to PHS. The forms will be included in this years’ **BAND HANDBOOK**. The Handbook will be available during band camp.

You may have noticed that we have placed a great deal of information on our website. I ask that all students please go to our “Marching Band” link page. Once our show is completed, you can download ALL of our recordings AND watch the video animation of this year’s show. Please check back to see the updates that get added. We also have a Music Booster website for our parents. Please take advantage of these resources and “surf” through them for updated information. All important dates and calendars are placed on the website also. Our web address for the Music Department is: **www.portsmouthmusic.org**. The web address for our Music Boosters is: **www.portsmouthmusicboosters.org**.

We also ask again that any new parents and students please have their email registered so that we may have a complete email database to send out our information throughout the year. This is very important as we will use the email list serve to send out information regarding the trip, concerts, rehearsals, cancellations, fundraising, and reminders. Please see the attached letter from our Music Booster president, on how to volunteer this year, as we are in need for parental help! It is a lot of fun! The registration link is found on our website.

In addition to email, we also use the **BAND APP** almost exclusively. I have included directions with this packet on how to download the app and to register. All marching band information will be sent out with the Band App.

I look forward to seeing you again during band camp and I am looking forward to this year’s band season. I know it will be a fun and challenging year for all of us!! If you have any questions please do not hesitate to send me an email: **rausche@portsmouthschoolsri@gmail.com**

Sincerely,

Mr. Rausch

Turn over for our Band Camp Reminders....



BAND CAMP 2021 REMINDERS!

1. Email Distribution System! All parents **and** students need to register by the end of band camp to receive ALL information regarding our program will be sent: DATES, TIMES, SPRING MUSIC TRIP, CONCERTS, REHEARSALS, GENERAL REMINDERS, ETC.! If you registered last year, you do not need to register again.

*Please register online by going to:

www.portsmouthmusic.org

(Your email will ONLY be used for the purpose of the PHS Music Program. We will not use your email in any other way for any other distribution system. This is solely under the control of Mr. Rausch and the PHS Music Boosters)

2. The PHS Music Boosters work for and on behalf of all music students (band, chorus, color guard, etc.) and faculty at PHS. Efforts of the organization are aimed at the enrichment of these programs, through logistical support, financial support, and other means. Please consider helping out! We will have a Booster Meeting on August 5th at 6:00pm under the gazebo on the football field to explain who the Boosters are and what they do and how you can join in on the fun!
3. **BAND APP:** Please see the instructions for how to register using our Band App. This will be used as one of our main sources of information. Information can be sent out more efficiently and quicker using this App. It is also available in free web version, by going to: band.us
4. **BAND CAMP:** Remember to bring the following items:
 1. **Shoes (not sandals).** We will be practicing on pavement and grass on field marching.
 2. Sun-Block!!! Yes, you can use SPF 100!
 3. Pencil!
 4. Plenty of water. You will have the availability to refill water at school.
 5. Hat for sun protection.
 6. Bagged lunch/dinner. We will have a 45 minute lunch/dinner break each day. I encourage all students to remain on property during lunchtime.
 7. Please PRINT OUT THE DRILL CHARTS FOR THE SHOW and bring them with you to camp each day. Make sure your name is on them! Drill charts can be printed out by going to our website and following the "Marching Band" link. You can then print out the three sets of charts that go with each piece of music. The charts are in PDF format. **Charts will be available in early August.**

AUGUST DATES

AUGUST 11 & 12

9am-12pm Marching Band Rehearsal at PHS. Music will be handed out for students to keep and to get ready for band camp.

AUGUST 18, 19, 20 9am-3pm

BAND CAMP

AUGUST 23, 24, 25* 2pm-8pm

BAND CAMP. On Saturday, August 25th, we will have our annual Family Cookout and Marching Band Show! Camp starts at 9am that day. The show will start at 6:00pm with a cookout immediately following. All family and friends are invited!

SEPTEMBER 1

7:30 – 8:00am

First Performance – Outside main entrance of building for Freshman Orientation. (9th graders DO NOT PARTICIPATE, as you will be participating in the freshman orientation!)

5-8pm

First Marching Band Rehearsal

SEPTEMBER 7

7:15am

First Day of School!



Hello future volunteers!

We are in desperate need of volunteer help this upcoming year with the music program! There are so many opportunities to share your talents and you don't have to be the slightest bit musical!!!!

Please join us on August 5th on the football field under the "gazebo" to the right of the stands. We will be having a booster meeting to explain who we are and what we do and how you can join in on the fun!!

We will also be having elections and looking for some new members to join the board! We are happy to have you, so if you are interested please reach out to me if you are thinking of joining in that capacity!!!

Some of the opportunities for volunteering:

- Trailer towing (7500-10000 lbs)
- Roadie (truck crew, helping haul instruments, half time props, loading and unloading trailer)
- Half time design and building of props
- Football game half time prop assistance
- Uniform fitting and organizing
- Fundraising (organizing, ideas etc)
- Band camp cookout crew (cooking, set up, breakdown)
- Parades: Bus chaperone and water crews
- Bake sales and donation tables at Chorus/String/Jazz/Band concerts
- Support Music faculty with what ever they need!!!
- Having endless fun!!!!

As you can see it takes a village and we need help to have a successful year. After last year we have lost some of the momentum and volunteers. We have always been very strong with volunteers and I know we will be again, but we need YOU!! Please join us AUG 5th at 6:00 to learn how you can help out and join the best boosters program!!

Stacey Rousseau

srrlc@aol.com

Text 508-642-1741

HOW TO DOWNLOAD AND REGISTER FOR OUR BAND APP

If you haven't use the BAND App yet, here is how to get started:

1. **Please download the Band App on your phone or tablet, or go to BAND.us and create an account for yourself.** This is an app that can be downloaded from either GOOGLE PLAY or iTUNES. You may also use the web version on your computer.



2. Once you have set up your free account: In the App: Go to "More" in the bottom toolbar and then "check invite".

3. Click "I got a link" and follow the instructions. This will give you access to our BAND group in the app.

Click or type the following link for access to the invite, once your account is set up.

<https://band.us/n/ada95aMc45O2F>

4. **On the internet:** Enter the URL invite of the BAND you are trying to join and follow the instructions. This will give you access to our BAND group in the app.

