

Dear Pirate Band Member,

This is a reminder about our upcoming summer band rehearsal schedule! I hope you have had a great summer! I can hardly believe the new school year is almost here.

Marching Fundamentals Camp for all new incoming band members will be held **July 13-16**, Monday through Thursday, from 8:00 am to 10:30 am at Poteet High School.

Drumline Camp for all percussionists is the week of **July 20-24**, Monday through Friday, from 8:00am to 3:00pm at PHS.

Rehearsals for the **2009-2010 PIRATE BAND** will begin on Friday, **July 31st!** Here is the rehearsal schedule:

From **July 31 – August 14**, Monday through Friday - 8:00 am to 1:00 pm
From **August 17 – August 20**, Monday through Thursday- 5:00pm to 9:00pm
August 21 (Friday)- 8:00 am to 1:00 pm
August 22 (Saturday)- **Big Summer Band Blowout at PHS! - Evening**
August 24- THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!

I know these times and dates are a little confusing, but I'll keep reminding you of when to be where for what! All rehearsals are very important in determining the success we will have in the upcoming year. Remember, as stated in the Policies and Procedures handout: **"No one will be considered for a marching spot if they have not attended all rehearsals."** The marching fundamentals camp is very important to new members since very few of you have any marching experience. This is very important because during the August rehearsals, we will not be teaching fundamentals, we will only be reviewing them in preparation for the performance drill.

We will start learning drill on August 1st!

For these rehearsals, you need to wear shorts, t-shirts in light colors, and tennis shoes (no sandals, loafers, deck shoes, etc.). You may also want to bring water with you. It is going to be very hot! Also, make sure that you eat breakfast every day! This will help you survive the heat. Our band parents' group will provide water and also have other refreshments on sale for you during your breaks. Although you will not be playing any music during the marching fundamentals camp, you will need your instruments.

Speaking of music, Parts 1 and 2 of "Green Planet" by Wataru Hokoyama and Jayce John Ogren are ready! You can pick up your music in the Band Hall on any day of the week except Friday. Part 3 should be ready soon! I know most of you are chomping at the bits to get this music. Please pick up the same parts given to you (1st, 2nd, 3rd) at the end of school. If you have not been playing your instruments this summer, start now! Get in shape before summer band starts. Don't show up out of shape!!!

As you already know, we are the **2007 BACK-2-BACK TEXAS STATE MARCHING CHAMPIONS!** This year, we have an opportunity to defend our State Championship- again! The Pirate Band has a tradition of excellence recognized all over the state of Texas and the nation. In case you haven't heard about our band's latest accomplishment, the Pirate Band received the Sudler Flag of Honor this past May. The Sudler Flag was presented by the John Philip Sousa Foundation. This is a huge accomplishment and recognition for our band program. Our members have already been busy and excelling this summer. Our Colorguard, led by Captain Bailey Morris and Lieutenants Ivy Donnette and Kate Dressler begins colorguard camp this coming Monday, July 7th. Also, your Drum Majors Laura Bright, Ben Felts and Shanayla Jones just completed Drum Major Camp at the University of Texas at Arlington where they had a great week.

You may be asking yourself: What have the directors been doing this summer? Mr. Newman is helping take care of Jace Christopher and preparing for the new baby that is arriving this fall- hopefully after State Marching Contest (knock on wood)! Mr. Kath is busy working on the percussion music for our show and traveling to Washington DC for the 4th of July. Mr. Davis? He just got back from touring Europe (again!) where he took tours of the local Dollar Stores (Just kidding!) He's also been working and preparing for the colorguard as usual. I just returned from a fabulous week in San Diego, California where I got to play golf at the famous Torrey Pines South Course-site of the 2008 US Open! When you have an extra hour or so, I will tell you about every hole! I've also been busy writing marching shows for four other schools (warming up for us!).

Everyone show-up ready to work and to continue to prove to everyone else what we already know: We have the best band **IN THE STATE OF TEXAS!!!!!!** I know we're going to have a great year! I can't wait to get started!

See you soon,

Mr. Coulson

www.poteetpirateband.org

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