



GRAFTON BAND CAMP INFORMATION

I can't believe that August is just around the corner already. Welcome back to all veterans and a special hello to all rising freshmen and freshmen parents. You are about to embark on what will hopefully be one of the most memorable and fulfilling experiences of your high school career. Mr. Stone and I always enjoy meeting and getting to work with a new class. One of the most rewarding parts of our job is seeing these young people grow into young adults and watching the maturity process over 4 years. The marching season is always one of our favorite times of the year. We enjoy seeing the final product being put together for the first time at camp and watching the tremendous progress that is made over the course of the first two months of school.

To prepare for camp, there will be a booster meeting on Monday, August 8 at 7:00pm. The meeting is open to all parents, but we ask that all of the executive board members and the committee chairs be present if at all possible. We will discuss many things that are pertinent to the operation of the band before school even starts, including band camp preparation and show needs for the fall.

The music reading sessions will be the first events of the summer. These will happen on August 2 and August 9 from 6:00-8:00pm in the auditorium. Attendance is mandatory if you are in town. All guard members will also be meeting during this time.

All of the music for the show is currently on line at www.graftonband.com. Please visit the website and download your music. Please have it at the reading sessions. The drill and drill numbers will eventually be on the website as well as soon as we have those available for you.

The times and dates for band camp are as follows:

AUGUST 8-12	Percussion camp	9am-4pm	@GHS
AUGUST 9-10	Guard camp	8am-12pm	@GHS
AUGUST 11-12	Rookie Camp/Guard Camp	8am-4pm	@GHS
AUGUST 15-19	Band Camp	8am-4pm	@GHS
AUGUST 22-26	Band Camp	3pm-9pm	@GHS
AUGUST 29	Rehearsal	5pm-8pm	@GHS
SEPTEMBER 1	Rehearsal	5pm-6:30pm	@GHS
SEPTEMBER 1(tentative)	Pool party	7:00-10:00pm	@TBA
SEPTEMBER 2	First Home football game	Call time TBA	@Bailey Field

BAND CAMP IS MANDATORY!!!! IF YOU ARE GOING TO MISS FOR ANY REASON PLEASE TALK TO MR. KIRSCH ASAP.

Email- dkirsch@ycsd.york.va.us

Band Room Phone number- 890-2468

On the business end of things, being in band costs money. Please see the attached sheet for an explanation of the fees that are associated with the high school band program. Our annual shoe and glove fitting will be held during band camp. Freshman, new students, and any upperclassmen that have either lost or grown out of their shoes will need to purchase shoes on this day. Please make checks payable to the GHBPA for \$28.00. Students will have the opportunity to try on shoes during the day. Look for the uniform fittings days on the marching season calendar as well as the fee sheet that has been enclosed in this newsletter.

The following is a list of items that every student will need for band camp.

1. Comfortable tennis shoes (**no sandals!**)
2. **SUNSCREEN**
3. A water jug of some kind
4. A roll of duct tape (Very important)
5. A marker to mark their tape
6. Marching band music (memorized as much as possible)
7. Instrument
8. A hat
9. Light, comfortable clothing (no swimwear)
10. Flip folder to hold their music (this can be purchased at Music and Arts or Pro Music and Sound for a nominal fee and can be used for 4 years)
11. Lyre- this holds their flip folder to their instrument (this can be purchased at Music and Arts, or Pro Music and Sound for a nominal fee and can be used for 4 years)

During rookie camp and the first week (Aug 15-19) of camp students needs to pack their own lunch. Lunch will be approx. 12:00-1:00pm. Students may leave campus for lunch if they have transportation. There will be no excuses coming back late for lunch. We hope that SNOZONE will also be coming to the high school for students to purchase during their lunch break if they choose. In the second week, the boosters usually have a dinner available for purchase for a small fee. There will be more details available during the first week of camp about these dinners. The dinner time the second week of camp will be approx. 5:30-6:30pm. Students may leave campus for dinner if they have transportation. There will be no excuses coming back late for dinner.

The marching season is a very busy time. We hope every parent will be involved in the band either through the boosters or just by supporting the band at their performances throughout the season. We are very proud of the band program at Grafton. Grafton has a great reputation throughout the area as one of the best bands around. Your involvement and your child's dedication make this possible. There are many things a parent can do, such as chaperone, work a bingo session, help with concessions, help sew flags, etc. We want to thank each of you for allowing your child to be a part of this organization.

BINGO INFORMATION AND ROTATION

As you may have read in our weekly emails, we are trying to get more people involved in working at least 1 bingo in an effort to give our regulars and die hard bingo workers a break. Below is a rotation once the school year starts. It is divided up by marching band instrument sections. We are asking for those students and parents in those respective sections to think about working bingo on the assigned date. Obviously, it goes without saying that we understand that there are objections and scheduling conflicts that will keep people from working. We hope that the sections will stick together and make sure that there date is covered. We need approx. 18 people (students and parents) to make the bingo session work, so think about volunteering your time and helping the band (and your own finances when we are able to lower fees!) By all means if you want to come and work on a different date you are more than welcome. Please sign up on the band website under the bingo tab. Through August is Friday BINGO. Starting with September 4, the day of the week switches to Sundays. Thanks for all you do to support the GHS Band!

Summer bingo dates:

Jul. 29

Aug. 5

Aug. 19

School Year Rotation:

Sept. 4 - Clarinets

Sept. 18 - Trumpets

Oct. 2 - Flutes

Oct. 16 - Guard

Nov. 6 – Mellophones, French Horns, and Trombones

Nov. 20 - Altos and Tenors

Dec. 4 – Baritones, Euphoniums and Tubas

Dec. 18 - Percussion

Sincerely,

Darren Kirsch and Gabe Stone
Band Directors, Grafton High School

2011 Marching Season Fees

The marching season fees for 2011 will be \$125.00 per student for this year. This amount is still less than what other organizations charge for their marching fees, and we are able to hold the cost down because of the contribution that bingo makes to cover the additional expenses. Every band student enrolled in a band class will have a yearly concert season fee of \$25.00 to cover the cost of upkeep, cleaning, maintenance, and replacement of the concert uniform inventory. Ladies will get to keep their garment bags and gentlemen will get to keep their tuxedo shirts upon graduation. Guard members will have an additional \$40.00 fee to cover the cost of their pole, shoes, and gloves that they will use during the marching season.

ALL MARCHING SEASON FEES WILL BE DUE ON AUGUST 15.

Marching Season Fees	\$125.00
Concert Season Fees	\$25.00
Guard Fees (includes guard shoes and flag pole)	\$40.00
Shoes	\$28.00
(Anyone needing new marching band shoes which includes all freshman and students new to GHS)	

*The rising freshman fee total is \$178 to include: Marching season fees, concert season fees and marching band shoes.

UNIFORM FITTINGS

Seniors	Tuesday, August 2	5:00pm
	Tuesday, August 9	5:00pm
Juniors	Monday, August 22	2:00pm
Sophomores	Tuesday, August 23	2:00pm
Freshman A-M	Wednesday, August 24	1:30pm
Freshman N-Z	Thursday, August 25	1:30pm

BAND PICTURES

Seniors	Thursday, September 1	1:00pm
Juniors	Thursday, September 1	2:00pm
Sophomores	Thursday, September 1	3:00pm
Freshman	Thursday, September 1	4:00pm
Band Group Picture and Section Pictures		TBA

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2011-2012 Grafton band year. It is with great excitement that we look forward to the many events and activities scheduled for the upcoming months. We kick off this year with band camp in August, followed by our annual pool party, football games, marching competitions, winter and spring concerts, district and state competitions, the spring seminar to possibly be held in Orlando; and finally, we'll cap off the year with our annual awards ceremony and dinner.

We are pleased to announce that due to our booster fundraising efforts, the GHBPA projects to raise approximately \$45,000 this year which will be used to offset the cost of the above-mentioned activities. The additional funds required are raised from fees that we collect from each student. As you may have already read in various places, **the GHBPA has announced that band camp fees will be \$125 this year and concert fees will remain at \$25.** These fees are due the first week of band camp. Volunteers will be available at 7:30 each morning to collect these moneys in the cafeteria.

It is incredible to think that we can run a band of this size and caliber given such minimal fees. In truth, if it were not for our terrific booster efforts, it would be impossible for our children to enjoy all the many benefits and activities that this band program has to offer. That is why fundraising is so critical to our organization. **Fundraising accounts for approximately 75% of our annual income,** and is used to purchase new instruments, music, marching drills, uniforms, equipment, and as stated above, funds many of our annual activities.

Remember fundraising is a group effort and everyone's participation counts!! We are fortunate, therefore, to offer so many fundraising opportunities. Without these booster activities coupled with your efforts, our band fees would quadruple. Please consider lending your time to help the GHBPA in the following booster events:

BINGO! Bingo is by far our most lucrative booster. This fund raiser contributes about \$60,000 each year, more than half of our annual operating budget. We run bingo games twice a month at Chestnut Bingo Hall. We ask that everyone consider working Bingo at least two times each year. Please see the band website for more details.

SCRIP This year round fundraiser is a great way to contribute to the band with minimal effort but maximum results!!!! Through Scrip, you can purchase gift cards at face value. For each card sold, we earn a percentage of the money. Gift cards can be used to purchase things you would buy routinely—such as groceries, gasoline, and entertainment. If you shop at Kroger, Farm Fresh, Walmart, or WaWa, consider doing so with a gift card purchased through GHBPA. Of course, this is just a sampling of the cards available. There are hundreds of other vendors to choose from. This past year we made nearly \$2000 from scrip, but our goal this year is to raise \$5000. Please consider this easy booster. Check the website for more details.

CONCESSIONS We will be hosting concessions the first two football games this season. We also host concessions during concert season. Concessions contribute about \$1500 to the budget.

FRUIT SALES The Indian River citrus fruit sale occurs in October with delivery of fresh oranges and grapefruit before Thanksgiving. This is our second largest fundraiser generating profits of about \$10,000.

WREATH SALES November is the time to place wreath orders and enjoy a beautiful, fresh, locally-made Christmas wreath in early December!

SPIRIT WEAR Spirit wear is available year round although you may wish to purchase a few articles prior to marching season so that you can proudly support our band at the upcoming games and competitions. Spirit wear includes T-shirts, hoodies, band magnets, and a variety of other items. Spirit wear also makes a great gift for the holidays or any other special event. We hope to raise about \$1000 this year from spirit sales.

MARCHING SEASON T-SHIRTS Every year the marching band has a T-shirt designed to depict the theme of the annual show. Each student receives one free T-shirt as part of their marching uniform; however, we make additional shirts available for sale. We suggest you consider purchasing at least one extra shirt for your child (its always great to have a clean spare!) and an additional one for you to wear as well. T-shirts will be available for sale at the August parent meeting and show. They are \$10 each.

BAND DVD This is a wonderful reminder of the band season. It includes the marching show and snapshots of candid band moments. You and your student will treasure this for years to come. The DVD's will sell for \$10 each. We hope to raise \$1000 from the sales.

The budget for the 2010-2011 year is posted on the band website; we will be voting on this budget at the parents meeting before the band camp show on August 27th.

Once again, we would like to welcome you to another great year. We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming events, and we hope that you will join us in supporting your student's band organization.

Charla Swale, GHBPA President

GRAFTON HIGH SCHOOL BAND SCHEDULE

2011-2012

Updated 7/14/11

DATE	TIME	EVENT	PLACE
8/2	5:00pm-6:00pm	Senior Uniform Fitting	Band Room
8/2	6:00pm-8:00pm	Music Reading Session	Auditorium
8/9	5:00pm-6:00pm	Senior Uniform Fitting	Band Room
8/9	6:00pm-8:00pm	Music Reading Session	Auditorium
August 11-12	8:00am-4:00-pm	Rookie Camp	GHS
August 15-19	8:00am-4:00-pm	Band Camp	GHS
August 22-26	3:00pm-9:00pm	Band Camp	GHS
8/22	2:00pm-3:00pm	Junior Uniform Fitting	Band Room
8/23	2:00pm-3:00pm	Sophomore Uniform Fitting	Band Room
8/24	2:00pm-3:00pm	Freshman Uniform Fitting A-L	Band Room
8/25	2:00pm-3:00pm	Freshman Uniform Fitting M-Z	Band Room
8/26	5:00pm	Parent Meeting and Show	GHS
8/29	5:00pm-8:00pm	Rehearsal	GHS
8/30	6:30pm	New Student Orientation (GHS)	GHS
9/1	1:00pm	Senior Pictures	Band Room
9/1	2:00pm	Junior Pictures	Band Room
9/1	3:00pm	Sophomore Pictures	Band Room
9/1	4:00pm	Freshman Pictures	Band Room
9/1	5:00pm-6:30pm	Rehearsal	GHS
9/1	7:00pm-10:00pm	Pool Party	TBA
9/2	7:00pm	Home Football Game	Bailey Field
9/6	Start Regular Rehearsal Schedule (First day of school)		GHS
	Monday - Percussion only 2:30-4:30		
	Tuesday-Full Band 2:30pm-4:30pm, Guard 2:30pm-6:00pm		
	Wednesday - Full Band 2:30pm-4:30pm		
	Thursday - Full Band 2:30-4:30pm		
9/17 (Sat)	7:00pm	Home Football Game	Bailey Field
9/23	7:00pm	Home Football Game	Bailey Field
9/24	Evening	COMPETITION	Hermitage HS, Richmond
10/1	Evening	COMPETITION	Warhill Sportsplex
10/10	Afternoon	Senior Regional Orchestra Wind Auditions	Oscar Smith HS
10/14	7:00pm	Homecoming Football Game	Bailey Field
10/28	7:00pm	Home Football Game	Bailey Field
10/29	Afternoon	STATE MARCHING ASSESSMENT	Warhill HS, Williamsburg
10/29	Evening	POSSIBLE COMPETITION	Darling Stadium, Hampton
10/30	TBA	Wind Ensemble concert @ UVA	Charlottesville, Va
11/5	Evening	POSSIBLE COMPETITION	Mills Godwin HS, Richmond
****END OF MARCHING SEASON****(except for football playoffs if necessary)			
12/3-12/4	All Day	Senior Regional Orchestra (for those that make it)	Western Branch HS
12/15	6:30pm	Holiday Concert	Auditorium
1/7	All Day	All-District Band Auditions	GHS
2/2-2/4	All Day	All-District Band	Woodside HS
2/25	All Day	All-State Band Auditions	JMU
3/6	6:30pm	Pre-Festival Concert	Auditorium
3/14-3/16	TBA	District Band Festival	Smithfield HS
4/2-4/6	All Day	Spring Break	
4/12-4/14	All Day	All State Band	James River HS
4/12-4/14	7:00pm	GHS Spring Musical	Auditorium
4/19-4/23	All Day	Possible Spring trip dates	Orlando, FL?
4/24	TBA	Jazz Festival	Hornsby MS
5/10	6:30pm	Spring Concert	Auditorium
5/24	6:30pm	GMS/GHS Percussion Concert	Auditorium
6/7	TBA	Awards Dinner and Banquet	Café & Auditorium
6/15	TBA	Graduation	W & M Hall