

June 23, 2007

Dear Allen Band and Color Guard Member,

We hope you are having a relaxing summer and are anticipating lots of fun and hard work in the Allen Escadrille! We're excited about the up-coming year and know you are as well. The many years of excellence our program has enjoyed has not come about by accident. It was developed through the attitudes and efforts of each student, parent and director associated with our group. You will personally play an important role in determining the degree of success that the Allen Escadrille will experience this year. The following information should provide you with everything you need to know to get a great start to the new year.

**SUMMER REHEARSALS – Monday, August 6<sup>th</sup> – Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>**

Attendance at summer rehearsals is required of all members. The first to success in ANY group is TO BE THERE! The schedule is basically 8:00-3:00 each day with lunch between 11:00-12:30. Please follow the enclosed calendar for your specific report days and times. Lunch will be provided to all freshmen on the first day, otherwise you will be on your own for lunch. Students are always welcome to bring a lunch and eat on site. During our rehearsal time we will learn and review marching fundamentals, prepare stand tunes and assign marching positions. We will complete our first halftime show which will also be performed during the "Watermelon Bust" at the close of summer rehearsals. We are particularly health conscious during this time therefore students must adhere to the following guidelines. Wear lightweight - comfortable clothing, tennis shoes w/socks, sunscreen, caps/visors and above all bring plenty of WATER every day. If you see an **UNAVOIDABLE** situation that will cause you to miss a session, you **MUST LET US KNOW!!** Call the Allen Band office, 972.727.0400 x 7744. If we are unable to answer, please leave a message with ALL pertinent information. Communication is so vital.

**ESCADRILLE REGISTRATION DAY – Saturday, August 11th**

Registration Day is intended for all members of the Band, Color Guard and Drill Team. It is designed as a "One-Stop-Shop" for students and parents participating in any part of the Escadrille. Uniforms, music, instruments, and equipment will be issued at this time. Permission slips and contact information will be completed and all required fees will be collected. Garment bags, yard signs and other optional spirit items will also be available. Parents will also have opportunities for booster memberships and volunteer activities. Parent support plays a vital role in the success of our students so please come out and join us.

**REGISTRATION SCHEDULE:**

Seniors	9:00 a.m.
Juniors	10:00 a.m.
Sophomores	11:30 a.m.
Freshmen (last name A - M)	1:30 p.m.
Freshmen (last name N - Z)	3:00 p.m.

**REGISTRATION FEES**

Polo Shirt	\$27.00
Band Shoes	white - \$24.00 Black - \$24.00
Refreshment Fee	\$30.00
Rental Fee for a School Instrument	\$100.00
*Garment Bag	\$30.00
*Yard Sign	\$30.00
*Booster Membership	\$25.00

(\* indicates optional)

Please bring your completed student information sheet, the Allen ISD Performing Arts permission form, and the Emergency Release/Authorization form (enclosed with this letter) with you to registration. Please take time to review the Band Handbook before signing the acknowledgement form. The handbook can be found on the website, [www.allenband.com](http://www.allenband.com).

## **PERCUSSION ONLY**

Percussion Camp will begin on Monday, August 6 from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm. Camp will continue through Friday, August 10 from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm. You will need to bring plenty of water! Please remember to wear socks and comfortable tennis shoes, you will be marching and playing.

## **MARCH-A-THON – Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>**

The annual Escadrille event has become quite the community event signaling the beginning of another school year and rallying support for another great season of Allen Eagle Football. It is also our biggest fundraiser of the year enabling each student to raise funds toward the spring trip to Corpus Christi, TX. Many students find it possible to pay for their entire trip on this ten-mile march through the streets of Allen. Detailed information will be made available during summer band.

## **BACK-TO-SCHOOL GENERAL INFO**

When school starts Aug. 27th all daily marching rehearsals will be at **7:00 a.m. each morning at the AHS Escadrille/Track Stadium**. Freshmen will be bused to Lowery at the conclusion of each rehearsal. Monday night rehearsals will also begin on that first day. **We will meet each Monday from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at Eagle Stadium**. Work schedules, Monday evening activities, and other school activities, etc, need to happen around these rehearsals. This is a **MUST**, as it is the only time we all meet together! Parents and family are always invited to come out and watch.

Athletes, we have had great success working and scheduling with coaches to give you the opportunity to participate in both marching band and athletics. We will continue tweaking this project by the sport you are participating in, as well as, on an individual basis. In closing, your student leaders are planning fun, social activities scattered throughout summer band. So, pull out those horns (so you won't bleed!), catch some rays (so you won't fry!), and stretch those tight muscles (so you won't CRY!) in preparation for hard work and TONS of fun! See you soon! It's going to be another GREAT YEAR!

Sincerely,

Mr. Pennington	Marching Band Director
Mr. Gibson	Director of Bands, Performing Arts
Mr. Boening	Associate Director/Jazz
Mr. Ferguson	Associate Director/AISD
Mr. Lester	Associate Director/Lowery Dir.
Mr. Villarreal	Associate Director/Lowery Dir.
Mrs. Rohr	Associate Director/Color Guard
Mrs. Kendlehart	Performing Arts Admin. Asst.