

Wilson Memorial High School Band

189 Hornet Road
Fishersville, Virginia 22939
Mr. Matthew F. Baraclough, Director
mbaracloug@augusta.k12.va.us
www.wmhsband.org

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To all 2022-2023 Emerald Regiment Band Members and Parents,

With many of our daily life things getting back to normal, I'm happy to announce that we will be returning to Highland Retreat this summer for band camp!! While this is great news, it does pose a few challenges for us. More on that later. With smaller numbers these past 2 years, we have still been able to create some amazing performances well beyond our size. We look to grow this fall and beyond. Our middle school numbers are growing, so the future looks bigger. I hesitate to say better, as we are maintaining quality throughout!

There are a couple changes coming with the return of band camp. First, our marching band fees will return to their pre-covid numbers. Fees are \$200 per person. \$150 for 2nd family member, and \$125 for third family member. I know this seems like a lot, but it does cover most of what we do. It will help pay for camp, music, extra shoes, gloves, accessories, show shirts, competition fees, marching band staff, and more. Thank you to our wonderful boosters who help make sure the rest of our expenses are covered!

The next change is I will not be giving you a print out of our summer and fall calendar any more. Our entire schedule can be found online at wmhsband.org. There is additional information there as well. Bookmark that website for your future use. That is the calendar that stays up to date, so check it regularly. Note that I will not have it fully updated until mid June. But, there are important summer dates up now.

Leadership team has been announced. You can find it on the band web page under the marching band link.

The show is Into the Light. A chapter 2 from last year, if you will. Mr. DeSimone, Elijah Steele and I have been working on the show. Music will be Moonlight Sonata, As Light Through Leaves, I See the Light (from Tangled), and I Can See Clearly Now. Stay tuned. It's very exciting! Our June rehearsals will focus mostly on marching fundamentals. We may sneak some warm up stuff in there, so I'll let you know when to start bringing instruments.

We will continue with Friday night game day rehearsals. These are required for everyone except our fall athletes, unless you are able to make it a priority to join us. I plan to stick to the agreement with fall coaches for our Tuesday/Thursday practices. The only time that I will expect fall athletes to be with us on Friday is if your practice is canceled for any reason. Note that this is only on home game days. As we approach November and post season play, we'll talk about how we'll handle those games, but we will be required to attend.

Our freshmen and new member marching orientation will be Tuesday, June 14 from 10 AM to Noon in the band room. Then, we'll begin our marching fundamentals with **all members on June 16** from 10 AM to Noon. You will only need to bring a pair of tennis shoes, water, and sunscreen. No flip flops, sandals, or slides. On marching days, I expect everyone to wear athletic clothing. This is a physical activity, please dress appropriately. No Jeans! These will be taught by me, Mr. DeSimone, and other student leaders. See calendar dates. These dates are mandatory if you are in town and not away on vacation or another camp. Work is not excused because it can be easily worked around. Plan ahead and ask off.

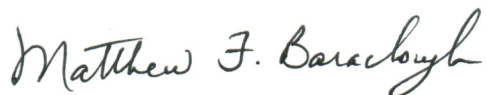
Mr. DeSimone, Elijah Steele, and Ailee Roberts will remain on staff. We are currently working on a new percussion tech instructor. We have a great staff and I'm excited to see what we can create together!

Our band camp, as noted earlier, will be returning to Highland Retreat. July 17-21, with a return home on Thursday, July 21. Then, we'll finish the week on our own Wilson field on Friday, July 22 from 1-5 PM followed by a annual family picnic and performance. **Camp is required** unless a family vacation has already been planned. Please talk with Mr. Baraclough ASAP if you have conflicts. I ask that each member download the app "Drillbook Next Reader" or DBN Reader. I believe the cost is minimal, under \$5. Once I have drill completed, you will link the app to the show and have access to the drill.

Finally, we will need donations of food items for camp. All meals will be provided with the assistance of these donations. Keep an eye out for emails in June regarding these donations. You will also need to complete the medical form and return to Mr. Baraclough before we begin camp. Per our band booster bylaws, all parents are automatically members of the boosters. There is no fee for membership. All members are added to our email list and are kept up to date on our band calendar, fundraising, and activities. If you wish, you may "opt-out" of membership. A letter of request to "opt-out" is required.

I look forward to working with you all soon, until then, enjoy your summer!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew F. Baraclough". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Matthew F. Baraclough