



## **Bloomingdale High School**

### **RAJUN' BULL BAND**

**Mr. Jon W. Sever, Director of Bands**

**1700 East Bloomingdale Avenue • Valrico, FL 33596**

**Phone: (813) 744-8018, ext. 256**

**[jon.sever@sdhc.k12.fl.us](mailto:jon.sever@sdhc.k12.fl.us)**

**[www.bloomingdaleband.org](http://www.bloomingdaleband.org)**

Dear Parents and Students:

I trust you are enjoying your summer break thus far. The planning stages for next year are well under way as the *Rajun' Bull Band* proudly present *British Invasion* on the field for the 2010 marching season. By the time you receive this letter, you should be able to download some music and recordings of the show from our website (don't forget, for copyright purposes these links are all password protected: please email me for username and password information. The following information will assist everyone with planning for the upcoming events. It is the firm belief of the Director that communication is the key to success. Therefore, please review the following information, download the calendar and hang it on the fridge so the *Rajun' Bull Band* will be ready for another season of superior performances!

#### **All-State Information**

All students planning on auditioning for All-State should be currently working on their major scales, arpeggios, and prepared etudes according to All-State requirements. I recommend that you check [www.flmusiced.org/FBA/index.html](http://www.flmusiced.org/FBA/index.html) for any last minute updates. Hopefully, I will track down all of the etudes and have them posted on our web site. However, you may want to play it safe and purchase the appropriate etude books in case I cannot get them soon enough. Don't forget to get the scale sheets from the web page and get to work! Auditions are usually in mid September.

#### **Fourth of July Parade 2010**

All students are strongly encouraged to participate in the Fourth of July Parade. The parade will be Sunday, July 4<sup>th</sup> this year. In an attempt to raise the attendance of spectators at the parade, the Brandon Roundtable has decided to change the time and route of the parade. Students requiring school instruments will need to meet at Bloomingdale High School between 4:00 -4:30 pm. All band members and Crimson Guard (along with several Brandon High School band members) will meet at the Mercantile Bank parking lot at 5:15 pm (please see enclosed map). Please dress in a band t-shirt, comfortable shorts, and the proper footwear - socks and tennis shoes (you cannot safely march in flip flops!). The parade will begin and we should be finished approximately by 8:00 pm at the Burlington Coat Factory Parking Lot (again, please see enclosed map). This parade is very important to the local community, which supports the Bloomingdale Band program. It is only appropriate that we give back that support to the community by having a large turn out for this parade. Be there! Any incoming freshmen students are encouraged to join us! Just wear a Burns band t-shirt and jump in line! Music will be available at parade site or you can download it from the web site today! Finally, I will give service hours for all in attendance! Music for this event can be downloaded from our web site!

#### **All Leadership (Officers/Section Leaders/Row Leaders/Captains/Co-Captains)**

##### **Preparation Meeting Thursday August 12 3:00 - 9:00pm**

All Leadership (Officers/Section Leaders/Row Leaders/Captains/Co-Captains) will have a preparation meeting for the preseason training and the fall operations. The first thing that I feel needs to be clarified is the role and importance of **every** position and my expectations for the leadership TEAM and that we learn how to teach! It is imperative and mandatory that all leadership attend all meetings.

**Friday, August 13<sup>th</sup>**

3:00 pm - 9:00 pm meeting, work session.

**Freshmen/New Member Preseason Training Saturday, August 14<sup>th</sup>**

All freshmen, new members, and 2010 Leadership are required to attend the freshmen/new member training session Saturday, August 14<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of the morning session is to get all freshmen and new members accustomed to proper marching and maneuvering. The afternoon session will be dedicated to an inside music rehearsal. The schedule is as follows:

8:00 am - 12:15 pm Morning session.

12:15 pm - 1:00 pm Lunch break (bring your own or the Boosters will have food and drinks available for purchase. You are welcome to bring your own food and drink if you wish).

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Afternoon session.

**Full Band/Crimson Guard Preseason Training August 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 16<sup>th</sup> (EVERYONE)**

Otherwise known as band camp, Bloomingdale's preseason training will be August 16<sup>th</sup>, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 19th, and 20<sup>th</sup>. Once again, the *Rajun' Bull Band* will have a short band camp/preseason training in an effort to get a head start on the season and it worked wonderfully. Consider the fact that other bands in the state of Florida usually hold 'camp' for a minimum of five days all day long, Bloomingdale's preseason training will be focused on three main goals: 1) Correct Marching and Maneuvering 2) Music Rehearsals 3) Staging pre-game and perhaps some of the opener. By the end of the first day of preseason training, section leaders will be assigning drill spots so it is required that all members attend all sessions of training. Since school is starting later we have very little time to get ready for our first performance, we need everyone in attendance. Please schedule work and other commitments around these important dates just as you would for any priority commitment, like the spring trip (which we are in the stages of planning). The Schedule is as follows:

**Monday, August 16<sup>th</sup>**

3:00 pm - 9:00 pm Full Rehearsal (Band and Guard)

**Tuesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>**

4:00 pm - 9:00 pm Full Rehearsal (Band and Guard)

**Thursday, August 19<sup>th</sup>**

4:00 pm - 9:00 pm Full Rehearsal (Band and Guard)

**Friday, August 20<sup>th</sup>**

4:00 pm - 7:00 pm Full Rehearsal (Band and Guard)

7:00 pm

All Friends and families please attend our sneak peak at the 2010 Rajun' Bull Band and stay for some ice cream afterwards.

**Tuesday, August 24<sup>th</sup>**

**First day of school!**

While students are outdoors, they will be given plenty of water breaks and adults will always monitor them.

All members will be issued a band handbook with important medical forms, guidelines, and expectations that all students and parents should review together. This book will be issued during band camp.

**What to bring to preseason training/evening rehearsals**

Light colored, loose fitting clothing.

Sunglasses

Water container

Hat

2 pair of white socks

Correct footwear - tennis shoes with support!!! Flip flops, sandals will not be allowed while marching.

Sun Screen

Instrument

### **Required\* materials for Marching Season**

Flip folder and music lyre for your instrument – available at music showcase.  
3 Ring binder and plastic page protectors (about 20) for drill.  
Reeds, mouthpieces, oil, cork grease, neck straps, etc.  
Thumb Drive (1 gig minimum)  
Pencil!

\*Just like any class, these materials are required to be successful in band. In order to keep paper costs down, students will be issued one set of music and drill. Therefore, all students will be required to obtain a music flip folder and a 3 ring binder with plastic page protectors to keep these materials for the entire season.

### **Uniforms**

Uniform fittings have been posted on our web site. The uniform fittings for Juniors and Seniors will be June 26<sup>th</sup> July 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. Sophomores fittings will be July 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. Freshmen fittings will be July 24<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. Please note, the parent volunteers that are fitting uniforms **may** have to cancel for circumstances beyond their control. We will do our very best to keep everyone informed via the band's website. To keep the program in good financial standing and to have clean, mended uniforms ready for the season, we will be requesting a \$100.00 deposit toward your band fees at the time of fitting. When you are issued a uniform, students will be given the rules and regulations for proper wear and care.

### **Florida State University 'Band Day' optional trip Saturday, September 4, 2010**

Once again, the *Rajun' Bull Band* have been invited to the Florida State University to see the FSU Marching Chiefs in action when the Seminole's host the Samford University. This optional trip will cost \$65.00 and will include transportation to and from Tallahassee and your ticket to the football game. What a better way to visit a college campus, watch a college marching band in action and enjoy the atmosphere of division one college football. Space is limited and will be on a first come first serve basis. Details are enclosed.

### **Parents, you are a part of the Band!**

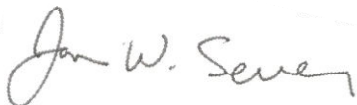
As many of you know, the parent (booster) organization is a wonderful and integral part of the *Rajun' Bull Band* program. The parents help with uniforms, equipment, fund raising, chaperoning, and just about anything else. It is an enjoyable way to volunteer at school and to be directly involved with your child's education. The first parent/booster meeting will be announced during preseason training. Be informed! Be involved!!

### **Communication Communication Communication**

I am a firm believer that open lines of communication with the director are necessary to have the best experience in band. Parents and students are encouraged to speak with the director about anything. Specific circumstances for anything should be done in advance (whenever possible) and privately (if necessary) with the director. In short, I have to be informed so every family can have a positive experience and every student can get the best music education possible. If I can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact me via phone, email, or conventional mail. I will be in the office periodically through out the summer and I can schedule an appointment if necessary.

In closing, I am excited about starting the season and I look forward to seeing everyone soon!

Sincerely,



Jon W. Sever,  
Director of Band

P.S. Keep checking the website for wind ensemble and jazz 1 results!