

# MARCHING COUGARS INFORMATIONAL MEETING

May 13, 2024

# WELCOME

- Dr. Jamie VanValkenburg, Director of Bands
- Christy Henderson, President BBOHS
- Jill DeVoe, Vice President BBOHS
- Sean Reynolds, President-Elect, BBOHS

# GOALS

- Review Behavior and Expectations
- Give overview of
  - Cougar Band Camp (CBC)
  - Overview of Marching Band
  - Overview of the season
- Answer your questions
- Get excited!
- Recruit donations/volunteers to help to support our musicians
- End on time

# BEHAVIOR

FCPS SR&R APPLIES  
DURING ALL BAND  
ACTIVITIES

## PLEASE REMEMBER

THAT YOU ARE  
REPRESENTING YOUR  
PARENTS, YOUR SCHOOL,  
AND YOUR BAND AT ALL  
TIMES.

YOU ARE EXPECTED TO  
BEHAVE IN A MANNER THAT  
REFLECTS THAT  
RESPONSIBILITY.

# GENERAL

**NO** tobacco of any kind

**NO** alcohol/illegal substances

**NO** profanity

**NO** PDA

**NO** wandering off, always  
notify an adult

# EXPECTATIONS

Respect and adhere to report times

Arrive prepared to every practice and event

Follow the “chain of command” for questions

YOU are responsible for everything you need for each practice, game and competition

Be responsive to requests and direction at all times

Stay positive and engaged with your band

## STAYING INFORMED

- Join the Downbeat ([oaktonbands.org/subscribe](http://oaktonbands.org/subscribe))
- Join Remind (text OAKTONBANDS to 81010)
- Review the Downbeat weekly
- Reference the “KEY DATES” Handout
- Check out the website ([oaktonbands.org](http://oaktonbands.org))
- Check the calendar online ([oaktonbands.org/calendar](http://oaktonbands.org/calendar))
- Sync the band calendar to your own calendar ([oaktonbands@gmail.com](mailto:oaktonbands@gmail.com))
- Social Media
  - Facebook @oaktonbands
  - IG @oaktonhsbands

## SUMMER PREP

*THE FUN STARTS NOW....*

Parents make time in your calendar now to volunteer and witness the magic of band camp!

Pay attention to DUE dates for FEES

- Guard “Try It” Events May 4, 9, 17, 23
- Percussion Clinics: May 14, 21 & 29
- Drumline Tryouts: June 6 & 13
- Practice Smart Music
- July 13 & 27 Band Council Car Washes
- July 27- Field Lining, Rain date July 28
- Prep for CBC: light/breathable/wick away clothing, Xlarge water bottle, good lunch/snack bag, daypack/bookbag, neck gator, sunglasses, hat, sunscreen, 2 pairs old athletic shoes, Ziploc for phone
- Try to acclimate to weather– light outdoor exercise works well!



# COUGAR BAND CAMP

*WHERE IT ALL BEGINS....*

## DAILY SCHEDULE

7:30a Breakfast (provided)  
7:50a March to field  
8a Field practice  
11:45p Break/transition  
12p Lunch inside  
12:45p Head to field  
1p Field practice  
2:30p Break/transition  
2:45p Teacher sectionals  
3:45p Student sectionals  
4:30p Full band  
5p End of instruction/  
Activities begin

## HEAT SCHEDULE \*1 HOUR EARLY

6:30a Breakfast (provided)  
6:50a March to field  
7a Field practice  
11:45p Break/transition  
12p Lunch inside  
12:45p Full band  
1:30p Teacher sectionals  
2:30p Student sectionals  
3:30p Full band  
4p End of instruction/  
Activities begin

The rewarding “work” of band camp – Dr V.

- July 29-August 9, Cougar Band Camp ~7:30a-5:45p
  - (May shift to 6:30a-5:30p on “heat days”-announced day before)
- July 30, 8am New Parent Reception
- July 30, CBC All-Band Field Trip (review other field trip/activities)
- August 14-18, partial day practices, times TBD
- Parent preview (Date & time TBD)
- Breakfast provided daily
- Some snacks, desserts and “cooling” treats provided
- Lunch available for advance purchase (highly encouraged)
- Shirt schedule
- Watch out for signups:
  - Donations and Setup/Take Down, Snack, Lunch, Water, Activity, Chaperone Volunteers for CBC needed

# COUGAR BAND CAMP SAMPLE SCHEDULE



OAKTON HIGH SCHOOL

## Cougar Band Camp

WEEK 1



### MONDAY

New marchers/Leadership report 7:30a  
All others report 9a  
Lunch: Panera  
Activity: Kona Ice Truck; 5:30p pickup



### TUESDAY

Report time for all: 7:30a in band room  
Lunch: Subway  
Field Trip: Bowlero (bring \$ for food)  
7:30p pickup from OHS



### WEDNESDAY

WATER FIGHT WEDNESDAY  
Lunch: Social Burger  
Activity: Sectional Activities  
(Section leaders will announce)  
5:30p pickup



### THURSDAY

Lunch: Chik Fil A & Salad  
Activity: BBOHS-Sponsored Pizza and  
Laser Tag - Parent drivers transport students  
Pickup from Ultrazone at 7:30p  
23520 Overland Dr, Sterling, VA 20166



### FRIDAY

Lunch: Tropical Smoothie  
5p pickup



### DON'T FORGET

Drop off/pickup at DOOR 8  
7:30am report time to band room/breakfast  
Pay attention to pickup times  
Bring a water bottle and wear your assigned practice shirts  
every day  
Bring sunscreen/bug spray if you need a specific brand;  
we will provide some for everyone's use



### MEALS

All breakfasts are provided by donations.  
You can pack your own lunch OR  
purchase lunches and select dinners at:  
[oaktonbands.org/mealtix](http://oaktonbands.org/mealtix)



### SHIRT SCHEDULE

BAND	GUARD
Mon- Orange	Mon- Green
Tues- Blue	Tues- Red
Wed- Red	Wed- Yellow
Th- Green	Th- Orange
Fri- Yellow	Fri- Blue



### DAILY SCHEDULE

7:30a Breakfast (provided)  
7:50a March to field  
8a Field practice  
11:45p Break/transition  
12p Lunch in cafeteria  
12:45p Head to the band field  
1p Field practice  
2:30p Break/transition  
2:45p Teacher sectionals  
3:45p Student sectionals  
4:30p Full band  
5p End of instruction /  
Field Trips & Activities begin



### HEAT SCHEDULE ~ 1 HOUR EARLIER ANNOUNCED NIGHT BEFORE

6:30a Breakfast (provided)  
6:50a March to field  
7a Field practice  
11:45p Break/transition  
12p Lunch inside  
12:45p Full band  
1:30p Teacher sectionals  
2:30p Student sectionals  
3:30p Full band  
4p End of instruction  
5p Field Trips & Activities begin at original  
times

It's what you make of it!

- Show up!
- Stay positive, open-minded, and celebrate your successes!
- Rely on your band buddies
- Attend all-band activities
  - During the Camp Day: Water Fights, Theme Days, Treats
  - After the Camp Day: Bowling, Movie, Pool Party
  - Section-based activities (as scheduled by section leader): Breakfasts, dinners, card games, fire pits, etc.
  - Parents, please offer to host your student's section
- Booster events vs. school field trips: Explained
- Even if you are tired... these memories and activities build and bond our band.

# MARCHING BAND SEASON

## GAMES AND COMPETITIONS

### Football Home Games

**September 13, 7p:** v. Woodson

**September 20, 7p:** v. West Springfield

**October 18, 7pm:** v. South Lakes

**October 25, 7pm:** AWAY v. Westfield

**November 2, 7pm:** v. Madison

**November 8, 7pm:** v. Chantilly

**Competitions** (specific times to be announced, save the entire day for these events)

**September 21st, Colgan HS**

**September 28th, Herndon HS**

**October 5th, TBD**

**October 19th, Oakton Classic, HOST**

**October 26th, Massaponax High School**

**VBODA State Marching Band Assessment**

- **Friday Football GAMES**
  - Wear khaki shorts, show shirts, black socks and Dinkles to school
  - Schedule:
    - Students stay after school, pre-order dinner and practice
    - Put on uniforms to march to the field for Star Spangled Banner
    - Play stand tunes until half time
    - **SHOW TIME**
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter concessions
    - 4<sup>th</sup> quarter stand tunes and clean up
  - Chaperone, dinner, uniforms & show support volunteers needed
- **Saturday COMPETITIONS**
  - Plan for entire day commitment
  - Schedule:
    - Arrive and rehearse
    - Load trucks and busses
    - Arrive at performance school, warmup and perform
    - Watch other shows
    - Return and unload
  - Drivers, towers, loading, chaperones, uniforms, show support needed

## CONCERTS

### *FOCUS ON MUSICIANS AND ACADEMICS*

#### **Concerts:**

Fall Concert, **November 20**

Holiday Wonderland Children's Concert, **December 14**

Winter Concert/Mass Chaos, **December 17**

Pre-Assessment Concert, **February 26 & 27**

VBODA Assessment, **March 21 & 22**

Jammin Oakton Jazz Cafe, **TBD**

Spring Concert, **May 21**

- Fall, Winter, Pre-Assessment and Spring Concerts are in Auditorium at 7p
- Concert Attire from [concertattire.com](http://concertattire.com)
- **LOOK OUT:** For info on the Concert attire exchange – donations of outgrown concert attire welcome
- Order by October 1st

LOTS OF INFO!

## TIPS AND TRICKS FOR NEW PARENTS

- Join a carpool.
- Your students will be tired. Set time aside for band camp.
- MB is fast and furious.
- Let your student be responsible for their Marching Band experience.
- Consult your student first, Downbeat second, and then the website/calendar.
- Volunteering is low-stress and gives you insight into your student's experience.
- Buy black socks and an extra tie.
- We are happy to talk to you about anything!
  - [vp@oaktonbands.org](mailto:vp@oaktonbands.org) [president@oaktonbands.org](mailto:president@oaktonbands.org)

## SUPPORTING OUR MUSICIANS

- Meet deadlines and due dates for field trip forms, emergency care and fees.
- Participate in Tag Day (September 7)
- Volunteer:
  - Lead or co-lead a committee
  - Chaperone
  - Join a committee
  - Be involved in our band family
- Donate/contribute items we need, as requested
- NEW:
  - Every family is asked to volunteer at least 15 hours over the school year.
- WHY VOLUNTEER?
  - Dr.V and parents
- Become a Sponsor (Family, Business, Grandparents) ([oaktonbands.org/sponsor](http://oaktonbands.org/sponsor))

# CALLING ALL BAND PARENTS...

opportunities are going fast!

*volunteer today!*

More hands make lighter work.

In 23-24, every band family will be asked to volunteer for or will be assigned to at least one band committee.

Email: XXXXX to get your first pick!

## New CAR WASHES

Organize and monitor 3 super fun summer car washes with the Band Council. A very quick and easy way to have fun with the band and raise money for our program!

**YOU set the dates and replicate the existing plan or set your own path!**

## New SENIOR ACTIVITIES

*SHOW OUR SENIORS SOME LOVE!*

Organize special senior events, produce senior posters, organize gifts and celebrate our amazing grads.

## UNIFORMS

Uniforms, Dinkles and hats, oh my! Help organize and outfit our students for marching band in their **BRAND NEW UNIFORMS.**

Help with advertising for concert uniforms and the concert uniform swap event.

## EQUIPMENT & PIT

Beef up your muscles and your heart while helping our percussion students move their instruments and moving other items to the field.

Love Tetris? Take the lead on loading our trucks. Lots of fun guaranteed!



## BAND CAMP

Ease your way into the world of marching band and land straight into band kids' hearts by helping to plan summer band camp! Lots of opportunities here to get an inside look at our musicians' hard work!



## SPIRIT WEAR SALES

**Just like it sounds...**

Manage spirit wear sales online and at football games. Predictable schedule, mostly from home. Can be broken into separate jobs with two or more co-chairs

## HEAD CHAPERONE (CO-CHAIRS)

An up close and personal look into marching band! This role involves coordinating the chaperones to/from marching competitions and other trips. Find a band friend and divide and conquer!



**PRO TIP: HEAD CHAPERONES ARE EVERYONE'S BAND "MOM" OR BAND "DAD" AND ARE BELOVED BY OUR STUDENTS**

opportunities are going fast!

## WFH CONCERT COORDINATOR


Ideal "work from home" job for **creatives and organizers!**

Draft 5 concert programs over the course of the year. Use existing templates or create your own!

Communicate chaperone responsibilities via email

## HOLIDAY WONDERLAND

Feeling festive?

Take the lead of an entire team of elves who help put on our annual Holiday Wonderland— an established performance beloved by students and area children! 

## JAMMIN' OAKTON

**CALLING ALL COOL CATS**

Organize and plan two Jammin' Oakton concerts, complete with potluck-style chili dinner and jazz club decor.

Follow the established plan or throw your own celebration of Jazz!

## New RECRUITMENT/ PROGRAM GROWTH

Have younger band students? This job is for you! Help us coordinate some essential recruiting efforts: **Future Cougar Night, Recruitment Tours, Area Band and 8th Grade Auditions.** No need to reinvent the wheel, just need someone to help out!

## HOSPITALITY

Bakers and Organizers unite! Help with concessions sales at concerts, student meal orders, and at various events throughout the year!



## PHOTO BUTTONS

As easy as it sounds! Make and sell those beloved keepsakes in the Fall! Great work for a crafter, mostly from home.

## RAKING IN DONATIONS

**TAKE THE LEAD ON A FUN FALL FUNDRAISER!**

Organize and execute one day where students rake leaves for donations. Follow past years, or create your own plan—either way, guaranteed fun!

WFH

WFH

## FUNDRAISING

**ADMINISTRATION ONLY!**

This job is NOT as big as it sounds. You will simply check in with other volunteers on their fundraising efforts, trouble shoot as needed, and keep track of fundraising efforts program-wide.

SIGN UP TODAY

TALK TO OTHER PARENTS  
AFTER MEETING

Key Roles still needed for this coming season:

- Car wash coordinator
- Recruitment/Program Growth
- Color Guard parents - Fall, Winter, Competition chairs
- District Band Coordinator
- Jammin Oakton Chair
- Equipment & Pit

THANK YOU!

- QUESTIONS?