

Churchill High School Instrumental Music Department

Dear 8th Grade Band Parents:

I am pleased to invite the Frost 8th grade band to perform with the Churchill High School Marching Band at the Home Football Game scheduled for Friday October 22nd. This event will give 8th graders a chance to experience marching band before sign-ups in June. I believe marching band is one of the best ways to ensure a smooth transition between middle school and high school because strong friendships are formed weeks before the first daunting day of high school classes!

Below is information that you will need for this event. The time commitment involves one evening practice and one evening performance.

Wednesday October 20, 6:30 - 8:00p at CHS: rehearsal and parent info meeting

1. While most of the music and marching will be learned during the regular 8th grade band class, there will be one evening rehearsal with the Charger Marching Band. The date for this rehearsal is **Wednesday October 20, 6:30 - 8:00p at CHS**. Students will drop off instrument cases in the band room and then will meet in the parking lot at the back of the school near the tennis courts. Practice will start promptly at 6:30, at which time we take a few moments to get kids into "block band" and then march to the stadium. You are welcome to sit in the bleachers and watch this rehearsal.
2. **Parent Meeting:** While students are lining up in block band with Mr. Rais, Mr. Smith and some of my marching band staff, I will hold a 30 minute informational meeting for parents in the choir room (G-24). At this meeting I will give an overview of the music options at CHS (not just marching band) and answer any questions you may have about scheduling high school music classes and extra-curriculars.
3. Students may want to purchase a marching lyre and flipbook for this performance. They will use these inexpensive items again when they get to high school. The lyre is a metal clip that hooks to the instrument and clips the flipbook in place. The flipbook holds the music. These items can be purchased directly from Mr. Rais at Frost, or at most music stores.

For the performance: Friday October 22nd 6:45p performance time (6:15 arrival time)

1. Middle School students are asked to arrive at CHS at 6:15. Cases should be dropped off in the band room and then students will go directly to the back parking lot to stand in parade "block" behind the high school parade block.

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2. For the performance students will be asked to wear black pants, their Frost music hoodie (or other dark hoodie), and dark tennis shoes. You do not need to purchase anything special; if you do not already own dark tennis shoes your child may wear another color.
3. The students will march out to the field together and perform for pre-game at 6:45p. You will want to make sure you are seated before then to get a good view of the field.
4. For the first half of the game, the students will sit in the stands to perform stadium songs. During this time, students are asked to remain with the band unless they are checking out to go the FMS Activity Night. They are not allowed to visit concessions, parents, or the restroom so they must plan accordingly. Parents are welcome to visit students and may even bring concessions as long as the students remain with the band while they eat. At half-time the 8th graders will remain in the stands to watch the Chargers perform the complete show.
5. For the second half of the game the Charger Marching Band will join the 8th graders in the stands to play stadium songs. The 8th graders are encouraged to stay until the end of the game to march back to Churchill with us. However, if you choose to leave early students may go home after the half-time show, just make sure you check out with Mr. Rais.
6. Admission to the football game is \$5.00 for parents; students in the band are free.

I am excited for this very special evening and hope you are, too. Please let I or Mr. Rais know if you have any questions. The Charger Marching Band has been a positive musical and social experience for many CHS musicians and I hope that your child considers joining next year. Registration packets will be posted on our website in May 2011.

If you wish to learn more about the CHS music department or see our concert schedule, please visit my teacher page at: www.livoniapublicschools.org/webpages/ehering

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Hering
Director of Bands
Churchill High School