

Monacan High School Bands
11501 Smoketree Drive
Richmond, Virginia 23236

Dear Band Student and Parents:

It's time to begin thinking about scheduling classes for the 2008-2009 school year, and with this in mind, I'd like to share some information with you about the band program at Monacan High School. I hope that you will choose to continue participating in band – there are a lot of opportunities for you in high school and I'd love to have you as a part of our band!

All **woodwind players** should sign up for Intermediate Band, PA311. In this concert band class we do four performances per year. We will combine with the brass and percussion classes for rehearsals and concerts. You will learn a variety of band music as well as study some music theory and history. There is a \$10 county music fee for this class and students must also purchase their concert attire through Ms. Ryan – cost is \$60.

All **brass players** should sign up for Advanced Band, PA312. In this concert band class we do four performances per year. We will combine with the woodwind and percussion classes for rehearsals and concerts. You will learn a variety of band music as well as study some music theory and history. There is a \$10 county music fee for this class and students must also purchase their concert attire through Ms. Ryan – cost is \$60.

All **percussionists** should sign up for Instrumental Ensemble, PA316. In this class we will perform with the Concert Band and/or Symphonic Band on all concerts plus we will perform as a separate Percussion Ensemble. You will learn a variety of band and percussion music as well as study some music theory and history. There is a \$10 county music fee for this class and students must also purchase their concert attire through Ms. Ryan – cost is \$60.

The **Marching Chiefs** is open to any band student enrolled in a band class, and I encourage you to consider joining this elite group! We will hold a “mini-camp” later in the spring for you to come over and spend some time with us. We'll teach you how to march and play and give you a taste of what it's like to be a member of the Marching Chiefs! There is a \$30 county uniform fee and a \$180 Band Booster fee to participate in this ensemble. Please note: If you do choose to participate in marching band, you must attend our Band Camp which occurs during the middle of August. Dates for this year's band camp are:

- August 4-8 from 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- August 11-14 from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- August 18-21 from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

The Marching Chiefs also practice after school Monday through Thursday from 2:15 – 4:00 from September through the beginning of November. We perform at all home football games and most away games, and participate in 4-5 competitions during the fall (these are on Saturdays). Being a member of the Marching Chiefs is a big commitment but also a whole lot of FUN!

Going strong is the **Monacan Basketball Pep Band**. This is a group of band students who play for home basketball games. This group starts up in December and runs through February.

Parents, please feel free to contact me at 378-2480 ext. 235 or by email at Jennifer_Ryan@ccpsnet.net with any questions or concerns. I look forward to having your child as a part of the Monacan High School Band next year!

Sincerely,

Jenny Ryan, Band Director