



**SOUTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL BAND**

THE PRIDE OF SOUTHSIDE

## Info for Upcoming Freshmen & 8<sup>th</sup>-Grade Marchers

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

Read this information on our blog at  
[www.theprideofsouthside.com/shs-blog](http://www.theprideofsouthside.com/shs-blog)

To All Current 7th & 8th Grade RMS Band Families,

Hello! Mrs. Hammock, Mrs. D, and I wanted to reach out to you to offer our encouragement to continue as a member of The PRIDE at Southside High next year. This message will give you the essential information that might answer some of your questions assuage any concerns you may have.

We are so very excited to meet you all and to have you here with us at Southside! Please contact us if you have any questions.

Go Panthers & Go PRIDE GO!

Matt Weaver

Director of Bands, Southside High School

[matt\\_weaver@ecboe.org](mailto:matt_weaver@ecboe.org)

(256) 442-2172

## Info for Upcoming Freshmen & 8th-Grade Marchers

See the attached calendar

### 1. Dates

Normally, we have our calendar set for more than a year in advanced and are able to give our families dates for summer camp in December; however, this year has been far from normal and we appreciate your patience and understanding. Below are some important dates for all of next year's 9-12 grade members as well as those students who wish to be eighth-grade alternates with the high school band.

**a. Auxiliary Member Clinic & Auditions – April 5-19: 3:15 to 4:30 pm @ SHS**

- i. Crimsonettes: April 5-7; auditions April 8
- ii. Colorguard: April 12-14; auditions April 19

For more information and to register, visit

<http://www.theprideofsouthside.com/auxiliary-auditions-2021.html>

**b. Percussion Clinic – April 12-14: 3:15 to 4:30 pm @ SHS**

Percussion Clinic is a three-day after school session for all percussion students who wish to be a member of the 2021 percussion sections (battery (drumline) and front ensemble (pit)). Mrs. Hammock will train students in the techniques and procedures that they will

need for the marching band, as well as finalize instrument placement assignments within the drumline.

**c. Reading band** – May 10: 3:15 to 4:30 pm @ SHS

“Reading Band” is the first time that we will meet as “next year’s band” and sight-read through selections for the upcoming halftime and pregame productions. Music will be distributed, information recorded, and instruments assigned. Auxiliary members will rehearse with their instructors, percussionists with Mrs. Hammock, and instrumentalists with Mr. Weaver. Everyone should bring their instrument and a pencil.

**d. Spring Training** – May 11-13: 3:15 to 4:30 pm @ SHS

Spring Training is for all members of next year’s band. This is where we will teach basic marching techniques and learn outdoor rehearsal procedures. We will be outside, so everyone will need to wear athletic shoes, comfortable clothing, and bring sunscreen and a hat and sunglasses. Auxiliary members will rehearse with their instructors, percussionists with Mrs. Hammock. New members will be fitted for bibbers (pants) & shoes.

**e. Orientation** - May 17: 6pm in the SHS Auditorium

Our in-person student/parent orientation meeting for all members and parents of next year’s band will be Monday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. Procedures for social distancing will be sent out at a later time. The meeting will be recorded and uploaded to YouTube for anyone who is unable to attend.

**f. Summer Band Camp** – See below

We want everyone to have as much of a summer vacation as is possible, and therefore keep our summer rehearsal schedule to an absolute minimum. Generally, we begin some form of rehearsals and camp one or two weeks prior to school to learn our show. Please see detailed information below.

**Percussion & Auxiliary Camp**

Monday – Wednesday, July 19, 20, 21

9 am – 12 pm / break / 1 – 3 pm

*\*lunch is not provided*

**“Mini Camp” (everyone)**

Thursday – Friday; Monday – Tuesday July 22,23, / 26, 27

8 am – 12 pm

*\*lunch is not provided*

**BAND CAMP (everyone)**

Wednesday – Friday; Monday – Tuesday July 28,29, 30, / August 2, 3

8 am – 12 pm / break / 6 – 9 pm

**Normal After School Rehearsal Schedule (August & September)**

Mondays – Auxiliaries & Percussion – 3:15 to 5 pm

Tuesdays – Full Ensemble – 3:15 to 5 pm

Thursdays – Full Ensemble – 5:45 to 8 pm @ Barney Hood Stadium

## **2. Sports, Other Activities & Band?**

YES! Being a musician takes a lot of time, practice, and dedication, to be sure, but we work to keep our after-school commitments to an absolute minimum. A majority of our high school band students are also involved with other activities such as athletics (including football and cheer because there IS a way), clubs, youth groups, work, and other things. The Marching Band rehearses twice a week after school (auxiliaries and percussion three times) and performs on Friday night football games. We generally participate in two marching contests on the last Saturday in September and the first in October. After those, we cut down to one rehearsal a week until football season is over; so, really, we only have after-school commitments for the first two months of school. Bottom line, we want EVERYONE in The PRIDE and are always willing to do as much as possible to help our students be involved.

## **3. Cost**

The Southside Band like all Etowah County Schools' athletics and activities is a 100% self-funded program. While the PMA Booster Club works to support and supplement our program, the general operational budget comes from membership fees and fundraising efforts. Band fees for 2021-2022 are \$200 per member for the year. This amount is split among several months, or payable in full. Additionally, we traditionally offer three or four student fundraisers to help families pay their fees.

**Some items are purchased by families and remain their personal property. New members have more of these items, so, this is something to keep in mind for May:**

- a. Bibbers (pants) - \$50
- b. Shoes - \$30
- c. Spirit Pack (everyone) – TBA (as cheap as possible!)

## **4. Virtual Meeting (optional) – Tuesday, April 6 at 6:00 pm**

Still have questions? No problem. The directors are hosting a Google Meet on Tuesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm for all upcoming 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. This meeting will be recorded and uploaded to YouTube for later reference.

# APRIL 2021

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