



# Amherst Steele High School

Christopher A. Barbaro - Director  
Christy Perry - Assistant Director  
Aaron Vranekovic - Percussion Advisor  
Michael Harris - Majorette Advisor  
Laurel Florek - Guard Advisor  
Jason Miller - Visual Designer

Office Phone: 440-988-5246  
visit us at [www.marchingcomets.com](http://www.marchingcomets.com)

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## Last Minute Memo

### Attendance at rehearsals is MANDATORY

As stated in the spring, practices for marching band throughout the summer are shortened to give students a break from band and to allow families to take advantage of this break and go on vacation. Therefore, the rehearsals that are scheduled are mandatory for participation. All students must avoid missing practice and should work their schedules around band. Schedules were sent home in February, March, and May and everyone has had enough time to work them out. Our first performance is only one month away!

### What to do if you are absent?

With the above being said...All students are required to call/email in advance of any missed practice. Rehearsals are important to the success of the group and should be considered with the utmost importance. You may leave a message at **988-5246**. However, calling off does not automatically excuse the participant from the activity. Put things in writing! We don't remember verbal requests. Students must also do their very best to make up missed a rehearsals. Please fill out an absence form when making up any missed.

### Band Camp Registration!

Registration for Band Camp will begin at 4PM on **Sunday, August 1st** in the Band Room Lobby. We will go through the process of making sure all the forms and camp fees are in and signed. You can speed up this process by sending in the necessary materials early. Please come with materials completed properly for it is having each individual writing out the medical form and/or deposit slip at the table that makes things go so long. Parents will be given a packet of information from the boosters and may also pick up current fundraiser materials. Rehearsal will begin immediately after on the field learning drill to pre-game.

### How much money should I bring to registration?

Fees for the week will be **\$50**. Instrument rental for school owned instruments and/or equipment for guard is **\$10**, and last but not least, **\$30** for new member shoes. We will not begin collecting for Disney until the middle of September. You should also turn in your balance for your PTP Fee. Please be reminded that the check for camp fees should be made out to the **BAND BOOSTERS** and the check for PTP should be made out to the **Board of Education**. Do not merge the two into one check. Thank you.

### Color Guard and Majorette Extras

It has always been a tradition that the guard and Majorettes have Warm-ups and bags to store personal belongings in. I just wanted to let you know that....all warm-ups, bags, and other supplemental materials are not mandatory and are at the discretion of the members and their parents. The band staff is not responsible for ordering, purchasing, or keeping such items.

## **Band Camp Advice**

Eat your meals, drink lots of water, wear comfortable clothing, and wear lots of **SUNSCREEN**. **ALSO PLEASE REMEMBER THAT CAMP IS NOT A CONTEST TO SEE WHO CAN GET THE BEST TAN.** We are here to get a very large portion of the season's work completed. The more we get done at camp, the easier and less stressful rehearsals will be in the fall and will make for a better season. **YOU WILL BE VERY TIRED EACH DAY....**but remember, there have been many before you (and many after) that were successful at accomplishing the goals set forth in camp. We will average 14 drill sets a day and trying to make that up is very difficult for when you return, you will be learning 28 pages. Don't miss!

## **Band Camp Meals**

Meals during the first week of band camp will be provided by a catering service. Students will eat lunch between 11:30-12:30 PM and will eat dinner between 5:00-6:00PM. A snack will be provided during the 3PM break. During week 2...lunch is on your own!!!! Don't be late back to practice. **YOU MUST EAT TO REPLENISH THE ENERGY BURNED FROM THE WORK LOAD.** Eating right is the key to a good camp week. Skipping meals, eating junk food, and drinking pop and energy drinks are not a good idea.

## **Rainy Days**

Rain or Shine...rehearsal is in session. Don't assume that because it is raining that rehearsal is canceled. There is a lot of work to be done and on a rainy day, we will go inside and work on music. **ALSO**, be prepared to go out in the rain. Except in severe weather, the band may stay out and get a little wet.

## **Band Lock-in**

On Friday, August 13th, students may bring their sleeping materials at 8AM. Students may also choose to go home for lunch at 12PM returning at 1PM with all their materials needed for the overnight stay at the high school. Once rehearsal ends at 3PM, the lock-in begins and activities are scheduled for the band members. We will end with skits put on by our very own membership. Dinner will be served and is provided by the band boosters. Snacks may be brought in by the members if needed. At 6PM, the fun begins with 4 hours of activities. At 11PM, the entire group will watch a movie on the big movie screen.

The lock-in will be staffed by Mr. Barbaro, Staff, and several chaperones. When it comes time to finally go to sleep; Boys will be on one side of the cafeteria and girls will be on the other side of the cafeteria with the staff/chaperones in the middle. The chaperones will take shifts staying up to keep watch. The students will be dismissed at 8AM Saturday morning. We ask that all students be picked up at that time. If there are any questions, please contact Mr. Barbaro at 988-5246.

## **Fundraisers**

We have a couple fundraisers in the first two months of band. We are always very low in funds and will need to do many projects to survive the season. Please check the website for more information.

- 1) **Candy Bar Sale** - in August
- 2) **Steak Fry** - selling tickets in August (you will get 2 tickets at registration...Please sell them to someone.)

**A BIG THANK YOU** goes to the students and parents that participated in the Summer Car Washes. The money was deposited in the general account and will be used to benefit the entire ensemble by defraying costs of the lockin.