

January 2012

Dear parent(s),

Congratulations on your student's participation in band! Music enriches our lives and contributes to academic achievement in math, science and language arts. More than that, it is fun!

Your 8th grade student will very soon complete the enrollment for freshman classes at Francis Howell North High School. We encourage your student to enroll in Concert Band. This will satisfy the FHSD graduation requirement of 1-unit of fine arts credit and will get your student off to a good start in the high school instrumental music program. Prior to completing the enrollment forms, you will have the opportunity to meet the directors at the Registration Information Night at North on **January 24th**.

I also urge you to put the **Saturday, May 12th** Knightpride Band "Ice Breaker" on your calendar (see insert). This is an important orientation meeting for incoming parents and students to get acquainted and to receive information and enrollment forms. Lunch will be served and the kids will have recreation while the parents meet. Students may also check out school-owned instruments.

I can share with you from personal experience that the decision to participate in the extracurricular marching band program is simply the smartest decision our children have made in high school. When they walked through the doors for the first day of classes as a freshman they already had dozens of friends from the summer marching band camp and practices. They love making music, thrive on the competitions and continue to revel in the camaraderie that the FHN Knightpride Marching Band and other musical ensembles have provided. FHN is a big school. Having their band family as the nucleus of friendship and activities has meant the world to our children. We believe that being in band enables our children to develop positive study habits and time management skills and improves their grades in all of their classes. The band program makes them more confident in themselves.

You are invited to begin attending the meetings of the FHN Band Boosters Association (FHNBBBA) now in order to prepare for the excitement of the coming years. The FHNBBBA meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the band room and is for parents of all band and guard members. The 2011 marching band Family Financial Commitment (FFC) was approximately \$800 and is expected to be about the same in 2012. There are easy and simple ways that you can begin now to earn points to offset these expenses or even fully fund your account without having to pay any out of pocket costs if you choose to do so. We don't want anyone to lose the opportunity to participate in marching band because of the cost. Please talk to the director or a FHNBBBA officer before deciding band is too expensive.

Please call or e-mail me if you have questions or feel free to contact FHN Band Director Jeff Moorman at jeffrey.moorman@fhdschools.org or 636.851.5078. Much information is also available at our band website www.fhnbands.com. It will be a joy to share the 2012-2013 FHN band season with you and your family.

Musically yours,

Mardi House, Chairperson
Middle School Communications
Francis Howell North Band Boosters Association
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2012 FHN Knightpride Marching Band and Color Guard Schedule

May 12	11 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Ice Breaker
May 16, 17, 18	6 – 8 p.m.	Color Guard try outs
June TBD	6 – 8:30 p.m.	Color Guard practice
July TBD (Tuesdays & Thursdays)		
July 10, 12, & 17	5 – 8 p.m.	Music rehearsal & registration (bring your forms filled out)
July 18 – 20	8 a.m. – 12 noon	New marching band member camp
July 23 – 27, 30 – 31	8 a.m. – 4 p.m. (M – F)	Camp for all band and guard members
August 1 – 3	6 p.m. – 8 p.m. (M, W, F)	
August 3	7:20 p.m.	Parent preview
August 6 – 7	5 – 9 p.m.	Evening camp for all band and guard members
August 8		First day of school (no rehearsal)
Mondays	2:40 – 5 p.m.	Full band/guard except percussion
Tuesdays ¹	2:40 – 5 p.m. 5:45 – 8:45 p.m.	Full band except guard (afternoon) Color Guard (evening)
Wednesdays	2:40 – 5 p.m.	Percussion only
Thursdays ¹	5:45 – 8:45 p.m.	Full band in stadium
Fridays (non-game days only)	2:40 – 5 p.m.	Full band
August 18		Black and Gold
August 24	7 p.m.	Home football game
TBD	TBD	Howell Preview
September 8		Mozingo or Competition day
September 14	6:30 p.m.	Homecoming game (Band marches before game)
September 15		Competition day
September 22		Competition day
September 29		Competition day
October 5	7 p.m.	Home football game
October 6		Potential Competition day
October 12	7 p.m.	Home football game (Senior Night)
October 13		Potential Competition day
October 20 (TBD)		Greater Saint Louis Marching Band Festival at the dome

1. Occasionally the weekly evening rehearsal will be on Tuesday instead of Thursday depending upon the availability of the stadium. Directors will notify students of evening rehearsal dates in advance.

Note that dates and times are tentative and subject to change. Please check www.fhnbands.com for the latest events and schedules.



Francis Howell North
Knightpride Band Ice Breaker
Saturday, May 12th, 2012
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Band Room (map on back)

Lunch will be served after the informational meeting

Find out about:
Marching Band and Color Guard
Winter Percussion
Winter Guard
Concert Band
Symphonic Band
Jazz Ensemble
Pep Band

Check out school-owned instruments

FRANCIS HOWELL NORTH

