

Good Afternoon, Band Families!!

I hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful Spring Break! After a fun-filled trip to Tennessee and some much needed rest, we're ready to tackle the last leg of what has proven to be a truly amazing school year! Please read carefully for some important announcements & information:

1. *Hot off the press!* I'm thrilled to announce that THE United States Air Force Band is partnering with us to put on a FREE public performance here at The Tracy on **Monday, June 29th**, honoring 250 years of American Independence. During the day, prior to the performance, members of the Air Force Band will be working hands on with our students. Mark your calendars!! If students are in town, I'm expecting them to be present. We simply can't miss an opportunity to work with some of the top pro musicians in the trade! I'll be in touch soon with free ticketing info.
2. *Snag your tickets!* Over 250 tickets have sold for our upcoming **Tuesday, May 5th** performance, our Combined Concert featuring our VHS Concert Band with The Villages New Horizons Band, and I haven't really begun to advertise it at all! This is another reminder to purchase your ticket ASAP, as they will go extremely quickly after I begin to advertise to the public.  
<https://thetracy.com/vhs-combined-concert/>
3. *New Performance!* Since our May 5th concert features only our Concert Band, we've decided to add a Small Ensemble Concert on **Monday, May 4th** that will feature our award winning Jazz Band, Percussion Ensemble, and other various small ensembles. This addition of a 2nd night allows all aspects of our program to be in the spotlight for an end-of-the-year performance. Only performing students are required to attend on May 4th. I'll have additional info very soon!
4. *Solo & Ensemble #2!* takes place next **Saturday, April 11th** here at VCMS Middleton!
  - a. The official schedule was just posted today! Check it out [HERE!](#)
  - b. I'm extremely impressed with the level of preparation I've witnessed so far! Solos, at this point, should be playing their parts regularly with the accompaniment. Ensemble members should have individual parts locked in, and are rehearsing with their group to fit their parts together.
  - c. The Band Room is OPEN every day until 4pm the next week and a half. I'm also opening the band room this Saturday, April 4th from 9am-11am for anyone who would like to take advantage of extra help or schedule a time to work with their group.
5. *Practice Logs!* New for Quarter 4, I'm asking students to practice and log 100 minutes of individual practice time each week throughout the month of April. The first log is due on Monday, April 6th and requires a parent signature. The purpose of this is simple... to ensure all

students are meeting individual expectations, creating the best experience for all members. This practice requirement really doesn't change what most of our students are already doing, other than actually logging the amount of time they are practicing. [HERE](#) is a copy of the log.

6. *End-of-Year Band Parent Meeting!* Our final Band Parent Meeting of the year will take place on **Tuesday, April 14th** at **6pm** in the **VCMS Buffalo Ridge Band Room!** The agenda covers important information about next year so it's important that 8th-11th grade families attend. Of course, informational time will be given for your attendance.
7. [Sports Physical Day!](#) Sports physicals (not school physicals) are required for marching band. We expect all students to participate in marching band unless we have an approved opt-out form on file. You have a great opportunity to get your sports physical for FREE on **Saturday, April 18th**. Click the link to access the flyer for more information.
8. *It's time to audition!* If you're interested in any of the following, please expect to audition after-school during the dates listed below. Audition material will be available soon!
  - a. 2026-2027 VHS Jazz Ensemble: April 28, 29, or 30 (10-minute individual audition)
  - b. 2026 Marching Buffalo
    - i. Percussion Section: May 13 - 15 (all 3 days)
    - ii. Color Guard: May 13 - 15 (all 3 days)
9. *Save the Date!* Make sure you have the evening of **Tuesday, May 12th** set aside for our annual Band Banquet! Great food! Great company! Great celebration!

Master Calendar Snapshot on next page:

## June

- |                                                           |                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> BIG Band Meeting (VHS Band Room) | Tuesday, June 30 (6pm) |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|

## July

- |                                                  |                             |                    |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership Camp         | July 13-14 (9am-12pm)       | MB Student Leaders |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Guard & Percussion Camp | July 13-14 (9am-4pm)        | MB Percussion      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Summer Band Camp        | July 15-17 & July 20-24     | Marching Buffalo   |
|                                                  | July 15-17 (9am-4pm)        |                    |
|                                                  | July 20-22 (9am-8pm)        |                    |
|                                                  | July 23-24 (3pm-8pm)        |                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Post-Camp Rehearsal     | Tuesday, July 28 (6pm-9pm)  | Marching Buffalo   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Post-Camp Rehearsal     | Thursday, July 30 (6pm-9pm) | Marching Buffalo   |

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## August

- |                                                   |                                                     |                  |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Post-Camp Rehearsal      | Tuesday, Aug. 4 (6pm-9pm)                           | Marching Buffalo |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First Day of School      | Thursday, Aug. 6                                    |                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marching Band Rehearsals | <u>All M, T, Th from 8/6 - 11/5 (3:05pm-5:05pm)</u> | Marching Buffalo |

Thanks!



**The Villages<sup>®</sup>**  
*High School*

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**"Great Band. Better People"**