



# ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

Darrell S. Keech, *Director*  
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April 21, 2010

To All Prospective Marching Band Members & Their Families:

It gives us great pride to welcome you to another year of the award-winning Arlington High School Marching Band. The Staff has been at work for months getting ready for an exciting, fun, and positively memorable 2010 season! Whether you are a first or fourth year member, we believe that this year holds the promise of great things both on and off the performance field.

The amount of exciting news and information is too great to be included in a letter, so each year we gather to “kick-off” our new season. At that time you will have many questions answered, receive lots of information, meet people from each part of the band (students and parents), hear about our very important volunteer opportunities, find out (and hear via computer rendition) the show for the next year, sign-up for the 2010 Marching Band, and much more!!

There are two items that I would like to bring to your attention at this time. First, marching band does cost money, but we have established programs that allow everyone to participate no matter what their financial situation. *NO ONE SHOULD MISS OUT BECAUSE OF MONEY ISSUES!!* Second, many students think the Marching Band is “very time-consuming”. It does take time, but in reality, **WE REHEARSE LESS THAN MOST SPORTS TEAMS at AHS.** We practice only *two nights a week* once school starts. We find that Marching band, *good grades*, and a successful first year at Arlington can go together!!!

Below you will find an outline of our schedule through the summer. This is a great overview, but not a 100% detailed list. That calendar will be provided at the kick-off meeting on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you have any immediate questions, please contact Mr. Keech at any time. Our schedule is as follows:

- **KICK OFF MEETING** - SUNDAY, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00pm in the Arlington HS Cafeteria C/D. ALL MEMBERS & AT LEAST ONE PARENT *MUST* ATTEND THE MEETING. As in past years, each member will need to make an **\$75 Membership Fee** to enroll in the program. This payment should be made at this meeting. If there is a problem, please contact Mr. Keech.
- **Winds (Brass & Woodwinds), Percussion & Color Guard sectionals** – Ongoing through the spring and summer. Check [www.arlingtonband.com](http://www.arlingtonband.com) for more details.
- **Wind Section New Member Sessions\*\*\*** – Tues-Thurs, June 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> from 5-8pm for all new members, section leaders and Drum Majors of the woodwind and brass sections.

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“A Commitment to Excellence”  
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- **Full Band rehearsals\*\*\*** - One time per week through July into August
- **BAND CAMP WEEKS\*\*\***  
August 15-19th & 22-27th , Monday-Friday, 8:30am – 5pm  
**MANDATORY FOR ALL MEMBERS – One day = 2 rehearsals**  
Parent Night/Band Camp wrap up!! - Friday August 27th<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm in the Stadium

\*\*\*Although Summer vacations and music camps are valid excuses for missing two (2) of the summer rehearsals, missing more than 2 rehearsals could jeopardize your place in the field show or entire program.

### 2010 Tentative Season Performance Schedule

A more complete schedule will be distributed at the kick-off meeting.  
**All members are required to attend all performances!**

<u>Day</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Friday	Sept 10	Home Football Game
Saturday	Sept 11	MAC – Ramsey HS, NJ Competition - Night
Sunday	Sept 19	NYSFBC – Brentwood HS Competition – Afternoon
Saturday	Sept 25	Home Football Game + AHS Building Dedication
Sunday	Sept 26	NYSFBC - Copiague HS Competition - Afternoon
Saturday	Oct 2	NYSFBC – Walt Whitman HS Competition - Night
Friday	Oct 9	Home Football 5:30pm
Sunday	Oct 10	NYSFBC - ARLINGTON Competition – Afternoon
Sunday	Oct 17	NYSFBC – Kingston HS Competition – Afternoon
Saturday	Oct 23	NYSFBC – Mohonasen HS Competition – All Day
Sun-Mon	Oct 31- Nov1	NYSFBC State Championships – Syracuse, NY

At any time if you have a question or concern that is Marching Band related, please do not hesitate to contact the appropriate chair person or Mr. Keech. At this time our website is not active, but we are working on the overhaul of the site as we speak.

We sincerely hope you are as excited about our season as we are!! PLEASE deliver this letter to your family and get ready for what is sure to be a great year filled with great friends, great memories, and GREAT PERFORMANCES!!

Sincerely,

Darrell Keech, Director

Lynda Keech, Assistant Director

**See you SUNDAY – May 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 2pm!!**

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