



BARRON COLLIER HIGH SCHOOL COUGAR BAND

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Cougar Band Update 8/25/20

To all BCHS Cougar Band students and parents,

I hope the information below will help answer the many important questions and concerns that parents have sent to me regarding upcoming home football games and the beginning of school next week. Please contact me (robinb@collierschools.com) if I can provide any other information.

You may have received an email today from the CCPS Superintendent regarding spectators at home football games this season. As of now, spectators will not be allowed at our home football games. The Department of Health (FLDOH-Collier) recently provided an update that spectators, on a limited basis, prioritizing parents, will be able to attend the events if Collier County's rolling two-week average positivity rate for Covid-19 decreases to 5%.

You can find the updated football schedule on the band twitter page and the band website calendar.

Currently there are three home games scheduled:

- September 25 v. Lely
- October 2 v. Gulf Coast
- October 25 v. Palmetto Ridge
- Nov. 6 is an open date for a possible home or away game.

At the CCPS Board of Education work meeting on Thursday, August 20th the following guidelines were established for the safety of all players, cheerleaders, band members and staff:

- No band travel to away football games
- Pep band/auxiliary of 50 or fewer, spaced in the spectator stands
- Pre-game pep band performance of National Anthem and school fight songs
- Student personnel rotated at band director discretion
- Brief halftime pep band/flag line performance on-field for public viewing via live stream
- Participation in quarters 3 and 4 are at band director discretion
- No concession stands
- No spectators. The games will be live streamed for parents and fans to watch.

The current plan allows only 50 band and auxiliary members to participate at one time. Once the FLDOH-Collier guidelines have been met, more band students or all band students may be able to participate at any remaining home games. Hopefully as we move forward throughout the season, more band members and spectators will be allowed in the stands. Due to the current CCPS and FLDOH-Collier guidelines, the selection of 50 band members for each game will be based on seniority beginning with members of the Cougar Band Leadership Team, followed by seniors and then the available rotated spots will be offered to

all band students. All seniors will participate in Senior Night that may held at one of the three scheduled home games. Date TBA.

All students will prepare the music for the football games in their band classes during the school day and will have the same memorization and performance expectations. When local and state guidelines allow, all students will perform at any remaining scheduled home football games.

Students will be updated regarding after school rehearsals on the first day of school. Weekly after school rehearsals will only be for students participating in the football games that week and will not be required for everyone to attend at this time. The updated rehearsal schedule is on the band website calendar. Calendar updates will be released when available.

Students participating in football game performances must have all paperwork completed through HOME CAMPUS.

We have also canceled the BCHS Band Boosters pickup day for students on Saturday, August 29th. Students are asked to drop off their band fee payments to the black band booster box/safe in the band room starting on the first day of school, August 31st. Please pay your band fee with a deadline of on or before Friday, September 4th. Credit card payments can be made on the band website, but PayPal does require an additional service fee of \$5.00.

We consider the BCHS Cougar Band to be a comprehensive band program that offers many opportunities for our students to perform. Our band classes (Jazz, Percussion, Auxiliary and the two concert bands) will be offered during the school day. We are also offering a virtual band class and a virtual auxiliary class for those students who chose one of the CCPS virtual Classroom Connect options. Please share this information on your social media to reach as many BCHS students as possible.

Mr. Robinson's class schedule:

- 1st Period – Percussion
- 2nd Period – Concert Band Woodwind
- 3rd Period – Virtual Band
- 4th Period – Wind Ensemble
- 5th Period – Concert Band Brass
- 6th Period – Jazz Band
- 6th Period – Virtual Auxiliary (Ms. Lamb)
- 7th Period – Auxiliary

Due to Mr. Robinson having a full 7 of 7 period schedule, the band room will not be available to any students during lunch 5th period.

The following classroom student safety measures will be followed:

- Sharing of instruments will not be permitted
- Masks should continue to be worn until all students are seated and ready for instruction (example, long rests, sectional work, moving around the room, etc.)
- The BCHS Band Boosters will have musician masks for purchase with an expected arrival date of September 14th. These masks allow instruments to be played while the mask is worn by the student. Students can also use disposable or their CCPS masks in the classroom.
- No talking should occur in the room without a mask being properly worn
- When possible, a disposable mask with a small slit for mouthpiece access should be worn while playing
- Instrument bell covers will be provided
- When a mask cannot physically be worn the mask should be worn over the chin and replaced during periods where the student is not playing. No talking without a mask.
- Social distancing will occur with a distance of 6x6 foot space around each student with the student sitting in the center. Straight lines will be used as curved setups can affect the aerosol movement in a room.
- Students will sit facing the same direction, back to front to minimize potential exposure.
- Trombones will have an additional three feet of distancing making their space 9x6.
- The player should be seated three feet in front of the back line, leaving an additional six feet in front of them due to the extended nature of the instrument and slide that can be in extended position.
- Spit valves should not be emptied on the floor. Recommend using a puppy pad (or similar) to catch the contents of the spit valve and discard.
- Storage areas should be managed to limit the number of students at a time in the room.
- Mr. Robinson will utilize an audio enhancement system in his classrooms to keep his voice in a low conversational volume that all students can hear. Students should also ask questions in a low conversational volume with a mask.

Please remember that everything is subject to change based on CDC, State of Florida, Collier County and CCPS guidance. Thank you for your continued patience and understanding.

FBA All-State (winds/percussion)

<https://fba.flmusiced.org/all-state/all-state-information/>

Please see the information on the link above if you plan on auditioning for the FBA All-State Band this school year. Due to Covid-19 there are many changes that you should be aware of:

- All-State Auditions will be held virtually this year via the HeartOut App. HeartOut authenticates and verifies that an applicant's performance is "live" and unedited by only allowing applicants to record themselves online and in real time. By eliminating recording manipulations often seen in the industry, HeartOut upholds the safety and protection of a performer's authentic talent when recorded into the app with the latest privacy standards. The HeartOut app will need to be downloaded onto a student/parent phone for use.
- The HeartOut App has an unlimited trial run feature so students can get acquainted with how it works, so they can hear the sound quality in order to adjust their phone placement, etc. Students will be allowed 3 opportunities to record their audition. Once all 3 are recorded, the student can select their best and MUST press SUBMIT.
- How to use the HeartOut App - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rj_-Jbsq72Y
- Audition submit window:
 - Sept 25/26 - 11/12 Symphonic Band Audition
 - Sept 27/28 - 9/10 Concert Band Audition Window
- Deadline to sign up to participate is September 16th.
- If you would like to audition and do not have access to the music, please email Mr. Robinson (robinb@collierschools.com)

Auditions

Auditions for drum line and flag, rifle and dance teams will be held once we return to school. There will always be a spot for every student that wants to participate in the BCHS Cougar Band. Returning students are not required to audition and will maintain their current placement. Students that are new to the program are encouraged to schedule Band 1 (percussion), Dance Techniques 1 (Flag/Rifle and Dance Team) with their guidance counselor. Please share this information on your social media to reach as many BCHS students as possible.

- If you are new to the band program and are interested in the dance team, please contact Ms. Jordan Lamb (lambj@collierschools.com) or Mrs. Lori Oliver (lori@naplesperformingartscenter.com) for more information and audition details.
- If you are new to the band program and are interested in the flag line or rifle line, please contact Ms. Jordan Lamb (lambj@collierschools.com) or Ms. Caitlin Early (earlyc@collierschools.com) for more information and audition details.

Band Fee

I have asked the BCHS Band Boosters to continue to lower the participation band fee to \$50.00 per student for the school year. There is an additional maintenance and replacement fee for students who need to rent school owned instruments and auxiliary equipment.

- Band fee for students who own their own their own woodwind or brass instrument will be \$50.00
- Band fee for students who rent a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument (\$50 instrument rental fee) from BCHS will be \$100.00
- Band fee for auxiliary (Dance, Flag, Rifle) students will be \$75.00 (includes equipment fee of \$25.00). We will not purchase new uniforms this marching band season.

The band fee will include one pair of shorts and one shirt per student. Additional shirts and shorts can be purchased (limited supply available). Performance Sweat suits will not be purchased this school year.

The band fee will return to \$325.00 for the 2021-2022 school year.

Band fee payments can be placed in the booster safe/black box in the band room starting the first day of school. Please do not mail payments to the BCHS Band Boosters P.O. Box. Checks can be made out to the BCHS Band Boosters.

Students will also be asked to participate in at least one fundraiser during the school year.

Please note: **IF** the season is shortened in any way or performances cancelled the band fees will again be lowered and adjusted accordingly. The amount will not go up for the 2020-2021 school year.

What does the band fee cover? Uniform cleaning and maintenance, instrument and auxiliary purchase and maintenance, FBA competition fees (All State, District 18 Solo and Ensemble, District 18 Jazz Band, District 18 Concert band and FBA State events) music for marching, concert and jazz band, marching band field drill, additional band and auxiliary staff, and other costs that are needed throughout the season to run and maintain a high school band program with over 250 students.

What school owned instruments are available for rental? We can only provide the following instruments for use: oboe, bassoon, tenor sax, bari sax, bass clarinet, French horn/mellophone, euphonium/baritone, and tuba/sousaphone. We have been told that CCPS is making plans to provide all band programs with enough instruments to prevent students from having to share school owned instruments.

Why is there a percussion rental fee? This percussion fee helps to cover the cost of marching sticks, drumheads, mallets, and all percussion equipment. New snare drums and quint toms have arrived. We hope to have all new percussion equipment by the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year.

Paperwork

Please continue to submit all required paperwork. All paperwork must be completed to attend a rehearsal or performance.

The following documents are required to participate in marching band:

- **Proof of Medical Insurance**
- **EL2 – Pre-Participation Physical Form**
- **EL3 – Consent and Release from Liability Certificate**
- **Assumption of Risk and Liability to Coronavirus/COVID-19 Form**

The BCHS Cougar Band uses [HOME CAMPUS](#) to download and sign all required paperwork and forms.

Instructions on how to register:

- Go to www.athleticclearance.com ([HOME CAMPUS](#))
- Choose FL then watch the tutorial video BEFORE creating your account.
- Click on the “register” link. Fill in your first and last name, email address and choose a password. Click Submit. You only need one account per family and siblings are registered from the same account. Your information will be saved from year to year.
- Log in to your account by using the code that pops up.
- Click on the “Start Clearance Here” button to start a clearance.
- Select the Year: 2020-2021, School: Barron Collier (region 3) Sport: Select Band from the drop down menu - Click Submit. You may add other sports at the end of the registration process.
- Fill in all required information on this page and click Save.
- Uploads for Physical Form, Proof of Insurance, and original Birth Certificate (**not required for Band**): You will need to scan each of these documents and save to your computer. Two uploads are labeled for you. When uploading forms use the “choose file section” **NOT** the “choose from documents library” section. Please use “Additional Forms” to upload your birth certificate (**not needed for band**). You must have all three of these documents on file to be cleared. Physicals are valid for 365 days.
- Once all information has been inputted on a screen, click Save.
- Fill out the Medical History (Step# 2) – Add additional details in the box provided for “yes” answers then click Save.
- Fill out the Parent/Guardian Info (Step# 3) – As personal situations differ; you may choose “N/A” for one of the parents if you live in a single parent household. You will also need to add an additional emergency contact.
- Step# 4: Signature Forms. This step is broken up into two sections (parent and student). The parent/guardian is to read the forms on the right side of the screen and electronically sign them by typing their name on the left side of the screen. The student should do the same for the forms listed under the “student” section.
- After you have completed this step, a confirmation letter will generate.

Where can I see all other dates for games, rehearsals, and performances? All of our dates are posted on our band calendar, which is available on our band website: www.bchsband.org.

For the latest information, visit these social media platforms:

Band website – www.bchsband.org

Follow us on Twitter @BCHSCougarband

Questions? Email Mr. Robinson at robinb@collierschools.com. Please share this information on your social media to reach as many BCHS students as possible.

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Mr. Robinson