



Collingswood High School
Panther Marching Band
Joseph D. Lerch - Director of Bands
Steven Lantz - Assistant Director



Thank you for coming to our informational meeting. Hopefully, the meeting and this handout will answer a lot of the questions that you may have about the Panther Band program. Here are some of the important pieces of information that you need to remember, as covered tonight.

Membership

As a reminder, it is crucial to us that we know the exact count of the number of students in the program for the coming year at all times. This is to determine needs for camp, needs for show design, needs for uniforms, needs for transportation, and basically needs for anything that has to do with money. Communication is the key. By signing up tonight, you are considered to be in the 2011 Band. Please remember to use my email at jdlerch@pantherband.net to update your membership, should anything change.

The Staff

Band Director – Joseph D. Lerch

*(9th year at Colls, 23rd year of teaching,
Formerly Band Director at Washington Twp. HS,
Was percussion caption head for Southern Knights Drum Corps,
Colls. Teacher of the Year '09,
Has won 30 championships in the field of marching arts)*

Assistant Band Director – Steve Lantz

(5th full year at Colls, 6th overall, marched with West Chester University)

Pit Percussion – Jay Bruner

*(8th year at Colls, formerly taught Washington Twp.,
Masters in music degree)*

Color Guard – Amanda Gantz

(8th year at Colls, instructs both the outdoor and indoor guards!)

Student Leadership

All positions are OPEN at this time. If you are a veteran member, you may apply. Pick up an application from Mr. Lerch tonight!

President

Vice-President

Secretary/Treasurer

Drum Major

Assistant Drum Major

Brass Captain

Woodwind Captain

Battery Captain

Pit Captain

Color Guard Captain



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Summer Rehearsals

Summer rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings, beginning July 6, from 6 PM until 9 PM. The rule for these rehearsals is “if you are in town, you are at rehearsal – if you are away, you are excused.” Just bring us a note or email the reason for missing the rehearsal.

Band Camp

Camp is an important part of our preparation for the fall. We cannot put a student in the show if they aren't at camp. We teach about a month's worth of material during this time. There is a mini-camp day here at the school on August 19. Away Camp is Saturday, August 20 until Wednesday, August 24, 2011, at Camp Green Lane in Green Lane, PA. Cost is estimated at \$175 per student, with the band booster's picking up the remaining cost per student. More info on camp is handed out throughout the summer.

Student Activities Fee

As you are probably aware, Collingswood instituted an “activities fee” for membership in all extra and co-curricular activities last year. This fee will be \$100 per student, or a “family fee” of \$175 for multiple students in the same family. All students involved in the Collingswood Band program must take care of this fee prior to band camp. Please visit <http://www.collingswood.k12.nj.us/> and follow the link under “our students and parents”.

Rehearsals for the fall

Fall rehearsals are on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6 to 9 PM. All rehearsals for the fall are mandatory. Any absence must be excused by a parental note or email.

Football games

Games are either on Friday evening or Saturday morning / afternoon. We perform at all Varsity games; half-time for home games, or pre-game at away games. All games are mandatory. The Thanksgiving game is on the night before Thanksgiving this year. All senior band members are honored at that game.

Competitions

The band usually competes at one local show per week during the season. Our home competition is October 1. Most competitions are on Saturday evenings, with some championship shows falling on Sundays. All performances are mandatory.

Other performances

The band performs at pep rallies during the school day and the Collingswood Holiday Parade on the Saturday following Thanksgiving. Other performances have included playing for the Phillies (3 times), the Phantoms, the Susan B. Komen Walk for the Cure, and an Eagles pep rally. Special performances come up from time to time. The band is considered to be ambassadors of the school for public relations. The Holiday Parade is mandatory for all performers.



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Costs involved

The costs of the program vary by performer. Everyone is responsible for the cost of band camp. All musicians need black marching shoes (around \$25). All winds and brass need black gloves (\$5). Guard members need to purchase parts of their uniforms, such as tights, shoes, gloves, etc. Percussionists need to purchase sticks or mallets from time to time.

Fundraising

We encourage all students to take part in fundraisers as they occur. The band boosters run many fundraising endeavors throughout the year to benefit the entire program, and certain fundraisers, such as the ad book sale, give students a percentage of the profits. You can easily pay off camp by selling ads. More fundraising information is being given out tonight.

Student Involvement

In addition to the fall program, we encourage all of our members to be a part of the band class in their respective school. We also offer performance opportunities for marching band members in our award-winning Indoor Guard and Indoor Percussion ensembles, our pit orchestra for musicals, our jazz band program, and in smaller ensembles.

Just as a reminder, we as a staff have been doing this for a long time (for some of us) and we get to keep on doing it, long after you have graduated. We encourage you all to be involved during the time you have in HS or MS, and to make the most of that time that you never get back. Being a part of our program is something that will benefit you for the rest of your life, not just from performances and rehearsals, but also from the life skills that the marching band activity teaches you, such as time management, leadership and teamwork.

We look forward to having you as a part of the championship Panther Marching Band for the fall, and for the rest of your time at Collingswood High School!

Email: jdlersch@pantherband.net

Reminders:

- First rehearsal 7/6/11 – 6 – 9 pm
- Bring instruments, equipment, etc.
- Wear sneakers
- Bring water
- Wear a hat
- Come with a great attitude, and prepared to learn!

Those who remain will be champions!



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Membership Application Form 2011-2012

Last Name _____

First Name _____

Address _____

Town _____

Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Can you receive texts? _____

Email _____

Instrument _____

Grade NEXT year _____

Rookie or Vet _____

If vet - how many years have you completed? _____

If vet - are you interested in leadership? _____