

2022 Big Red Machine Marching Band Students and Parents,

Right now I'm looking forward to our 4th of July camping and then I'll be heading to Scotland to see the British Open golf tournament that my wife won me tickets for. I've been at the little league fields nearly every night since the start of May so I'm really looking forward to a few days off from that! I really can't wait to hear the full group as we gear up to show everyone our competitive show "INK". Summer music rehearsals are every Tues. starting 7/12 and leading all the way up to school starting. 7p-9p before camp, and 6-9p after camp week.

Hopefully you're all enjoying your time away from school and taking time to enjoy time with family and some great weather lately. If you don't do any other reading over the summer, please consider making this "letter" something important to make it all the way through. [IF YOU HAVEN'T DONE REGISTRATION FOR US YET, PLEASE CLICK HERE AND DO IT NOW!!!](#)

YES! We are going away to Epworth Forest Conference Center for our marching camp week. Epworth Forest is located in North Webster, IN (8531 E Epworth Forest Rd, North Webster, IN 46555). We are so excited to embark on a new camp. Payments for the marching band season can be sent into the school via snail mail or made through Skyward. Remember you can only access payments through the parent portal side of Skyward and not the student side and can't do Skyward payments on a phone. More detail about how to make those payments is available on our website, [www.vicksburgbands.com](http://www.vicksburgbands.com). The season cost is \$350 per student. Our goal is to have every student paid in full before we leave for camp but please understand the balance remaining will show up as a student fine. If payment before we leave for camp will be any issue at all, please let us know so we can try to help out, either with a payment plan or financial assistance. We've had some incredibly generous donors offer to help out with students in need so please let me know if you need that assistance.

Address to send payments;

*Vicksburg Bands*

*% Band Camp*

*501 E Highway*

*Vicksburg, MI 49097*

Payment for the season includes lodging and meals at camp, shoes, performance t-shirt, gloves, and earplugs, and much more. It is very important that we protect our ears from the level of sound that our large band produces. As was the case last year we have decided that it is a necessity that we provide all students with a pair of earplugs, and it is very important that every student wears them. If you lose earplugs, they are available year-round for \$10 and will continue to be one of the best investments you can make. The "INK" show shirts and hoodies will be available for purchase when we come back from camp.

Our calendar of dates for the upcoming year is always updated and can be found on [vicksburgbands.com/calendar](http://vicksburgbands.com/calendar) Please place these in your calendar or subscribe to our Vicksburg Bands Google calendar and upload all of the dates easily. Tuesday rehearsals in July are for everyone if you are in town. If you're not in town, please enjoy your time with family and we'll see you when you get back. Drumline and colorguard have also discussed their Thursday's throughout the summer.

## [Packing list available at this link](#)

Every year we have the students bring a snack to share for the week of camp. This year we are asking that all students bring one package/box of snacks. Last name starting with A-F: Granola Bars, G-Z: Fruit Snacks.

Pyware 3D Viewer will be an optional app that students may download. This app cost will be on them if they choose to use it. We will NOT be allowing this app to be used on the field at any time, so this may change their idea on download.

Parents, we will have volunteer signups a little closer to camp. If you mentioned you would be interested in chaperoning camp you will get an email from me soon to confirm.

### **Some of the ways to keep connected with us throughout the school year and the marching season are;**

Website- [www.vicksburgbands.org](http://www.vicksburgbands.org)

Facebook- open group "[The Official Home of the Vicksburg Bands](#)"

Twitter- @VicksburgBands

**We do now use the "BAND" app. This can be downloaded as well on your phone to keep up on upcoming events. This has the calendar embedded into it! There will only be one group for parents and students alike.**



We are very much looking forward to seeing how our 2022 show "INK" turns out by the end of the fall season as well as all of the other awesome things planned for the school year. As always, if you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get a hold of us.

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