Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to the Flowery Branch High School Band Program!

"Family, Pride, and Mastery in Music Education" is the mission of the Flowery Branch High School Band. As new students make their commitment to join our award winning program, we are just as committed to offering you one of the most outstanding opportunities in the high school experience: being included as a member of one, or more, of our accomplished performing groups!

For those of you who may be new to the Flowery Branch High School Band Program, we offer students a wide variety of performance opportunities including participation in the pride of Flowery Branch: The Falcon Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Steel Drum Band, Winter Percussion, Winter Guard, and various other ensembles!

It is our sincere hope that, as you join our current student membership and parent volunteers, you will be able to experience for yourself the personal satisfaction and recognition that will certainly continue to be the result of our dedication to, and love of, music.

The friends we make, the lessons we learn, and the skills we develop over the years of band will last a lifetime. We are truly a family.

Please take the opportunity to peek inside our organization by visiting us at www.fbhsband.org for more information.

We look forward to welcoming you into our band family!

GO FALCONS!

Dennis Naughton Director of Bands Flowery Branch High School dennis.naughton@hallco.org

Letter from our BandParents'Association(BPA)President

The Flowery Branch Band Parents Association would like to congratulate your student for making the choice to participate in the 2012 – 2013 band program. It has been said that music capability has proven to increase a student's ability to learn and that the College Entrance Examination Board found that students with coursework in music performance and music appreciation scored higher on the SAT.

When your child joined the band they did two things.

One, they made a commitment to Mr. Naughton and the other band members to work hard in making the band a success. Two, they automatically made you, the parent/guardian, a member of the Band Parents Association.

The Flowery Branch Band Parents Association has several areas of responsibility and as a nonprofit association which does not receive financial assistance from the Hall County School Board it takes participation by all of our band boosters to make this a successful program. As a member of the BPA it is vital that we have participation from all of our parents; areas of participation include the following:

To raise funds to reduce student band fees.

We have several fund raising events each year which we encourage your participation as these fundraisers can help reduce your individual fees and provide for the general account. It is critical for us, the parents, to make sure that funds are available to help make the band function properly.

To coordinate volunteers for band functions.

We are always in need of help at band functions which include working the concession stands, Chaperones, and participation in the various committees in the BPA.

To provide an avenue of communication between the students, school staff and band parents.

The Flowery Branch Band Parents Association has a great website kept up by our Web Master. Check it out at http://www.fbhsband.org for updates, messages and upcoming events.

You may think there are not enough hours in the day to add one more responsibility to your schedule and this is a legitimate consideration. However, you will find everyone on the BPA committees are willing to make the necessary accommodations so all parents can become involved in some way. Being involved with your child through their high school years is an opportunity which comes around only once in the life of your child.

I encourage all parents to attend our monthly Band Parents Association meetings which are normally on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. We need you to become an active member of the various committees, and join your fellow band parents who are dedicated to making this a successful band and one to be proud of. I look forward to working with all of you during the upcoming year.

Sincerely yours,

Tim Fike FBHSBPA President

Your Very First Assignment

Assignment #1: Get Connected

The very first assignment for Falcon Band parents and students is to sign up to receive e-mails from the band. This is a key outlet for distributing information, and you will not want to be "in the dark" about basic instructions, meeting times, etc.

It is VERY IMPORTANT that at least one parent sign up for the e-group list. The majority of band information is distributed through these e-mails; this is the best way to stay informed on band happenings. Join now so that you don't miss any information during the summer. For instructions on signing up, go to the band website at www.fbhsband.org

The BandWebsite

The band maintains a website with up-to-date information on all aspects of the Flowery Branch band program, including marching band, color guard, concert band, edge percussion, and jazz band. The web address is: www.fbhsband.org. The most current information is on the home page and calendar; there are also links for further information. Eventually the website will be upgraded so families can log in and update their contact information and access more personalized content. Visit the website frequently for the latest band information!

Ensembles

The ensembles page has descriptions of the various band programs as well as more details about recent band activities.

Members

The "members" page has directions on subscribing to the band's yahoo group which is the other way that band information is distributed (see Assignment 1).

BPA

The BPA page provides parents with updated minutes from BPA meetings, contact information for the executive board, and general information on volunteering.

Staff Bios

The staff page provides students and parents an introduction of our band staff as well as contact information.

Forms

The forms page has a listing of files that can be downloaded. This usually includes all the registration forms, travel policy, uniform policy, and other band handouts.

Calendar

The full band calendar is posted and updated regularly.

In The News

The "In The News" page provides links to stories about the band program that are locally and nationally published.

BandHistory

Ever wonder where we started? Here's where you'll find out. You can also access halftime show themes from previous years.

Links

The links page provides parents and students with valuable resources that are beneficial to the development of musical skills and knowledge.

Rules and Expectations

Students

- 1. Respect for self, peers, teachers, and adults
- 2. Responsibility
- 3. Best effort daily
- All electronic devices turned off (not just silenced!)
- 5. Raise your hand
- 6. Keep food and drinks out of the band room (water is okay)
- 7. Practice outside of class
- 8. Attend concerts
- 9. Take an active part in your education
- 10. Do not impede another student's learning
- 11. Be on time
- 12. Follow directions
- 13. Be prepared
- 14. Adhere to all school and band codes
- 15. Positive attitude

Parents

- 1. Read and understand the handbook
- 2. Support the students in the band program
- 3. Attend concerts
- 4. Provide or arrange transportation to and from various band related functions for your student
- 5. Encourage your student's practice habits at home
- 6. Supply your student with a quality instrument and all materials associated with the band (reeds, oils, mouthpieces, etc.)
- 7. Support your student financially
- 8. Check your mail, e-mail, phone, and/or band website to stay current with the band's activities
- 9. Ensure your student adheres to uniform requirements
- 10. Be a positive role model
- 11. Plan ahead to limit conflicts with the schedule
- 12. Get involved!

Teacher/Staff

- 1. Be on time
- 2. Be respectful and professional
- 3. Stay current with musical knowledge and competency
- 4. Organized
- 5. Communicator
- 6. Be just, fair, and reasonable
- 7. Provide an enjoyable experience
- 8. Inspiring
- 9. Positive attitude
- 10. Honest
- 11. Provide a safe environment
- Listener
- 13. Hold high expectations
- 14. Encourager to students and parents
- 15. Efficient
- 16. Be prepared
- 17. Model musician and citizen
- 18. Respond in a timely manner
- 19. Differentiated instructor
- 20. Consummate performer
- 21. Student centered

Class

- 1. Enter the room quietly
- 2. Walk
- 3. Be in your seat two minutes after the bell rings with all of your materials ready
- 4. Be Respectful
- 5. Be Prepared
- 6. Do your best
- 7. Rehearse together in class, practice at home
- 8. Stay on task
- 9. Keep all unrelated materials out of the band set
- 10. Work for other classes is to be done outside of band
- 11. Refrain from talking during rehearsals
- 12. Raise your hand
- 13. Avoid wasting time
- 14. Have agendas filled out prior to asking permission to leave the room
- 15. Keep the band room clean
- 16. Refrain from eating and drinking in the room; water is okay
- 17. Store cases and bags outside of the band set during rehearsals
- 18. The teacher dismisses the class, not the bell
- 19. Put away all chairs, stands, and percussion equipment at the end of class

Behavior Expectations: On-Campus

- 1. Adhere to all school rules
- 2. No hats inside
- 3. Refrain from yelling or shouting
- 4. Be responsible for your equipment/instrument and materials
- 5. Treat the school equipment with care
- 6. Set up your equipment quickly and quietly
- 7. Stay in the designated areas
- 8. Stay quiet while instructions are being given
- 9. Walk
- 10. Avoid throwing items
- 11. Keep valuables secure
- 12. When in uniform or concert attire, stay that way

Behavior Expectations: Off Campus

In addition to the On-Campus Expectations:

- 1. Always travel in groups of two or more
- 2. Be polite and respectful to all chaperones
- 3. Be on time for check-in times
- 4. Observe all bus/transportation rules
- 5. When departing from or arriving at a destination, remain quiet to hear instructions until instructed otherwise
- 6. Leave places better than we find them
- 7. Remember we are representing not only the band, but Flowery Branch High School and our entire community!

Rehearsal Expectations

- 1. Absolutely no talking during rehearsal (visual, music, or ensemble). Remember, the only ones that are allowed to talk are your leaders, and even then, they won't unless there is major confusion.
- 2. Be prepared. Make sure you have your dot books, music, water, instrument, and field bag, etc. before you go anywhere. A great suggestion I have for you, once you finish eating, rather than sit and chat, fill up your water bottles and review your music or coordinate sheet.
- 3. Practice like you perform. If you hold back during rehearsal, then do something different in the show, the staff will not be able to fix it; therefore, our score will never get where we want it... at 100.

- 4. Intensity is everything. This goes with practice as you perform, but with some differences. Do everything 150%. If you go all out, your body will be able to build endurance each day, wake up with more energy, survive long bus rides, etc.
- 5. Listen up. The staff will be throwing different instructions at you and you have to adapt quickly, or else someone might get hurt. If a tuba is not listening and goes on 4 more counts, that's about 170 lbs of person... and 25 lbs of metal... running into someone else. Trust me, it hurts. So make sure you listen to instructions.
- 6. Never, NEVER talk back to staff. I don't care if we all know what they said is wrong, still do it. They will eventually catch themselves and learn from their mistakes, because they are human, just like everyone else. If someone tells you to fix something, don't say "This is my dot though!", just move and say "Yes sir/ma'am." Fix it, don't argue.

Let's make everything as smooth as possible and just go with the flow.

Rules of the Road

All Band trips are planned, conducted, and supervised by the Band Director, with the help of the Band Parent Association. All band members are responsible for their conduct to the Band Director and adult chaperones who are supervising this trip. Guidelines include, but are not limited to, the following:

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- 1. Band members' conduct shall at all times be appropriate to the standards and image of Flowery Branch High School and the programs they represent.
- 2. Band members shall show respect for the property and facilities used during the trip and assume financial responsibility for any damage they cause. Practical jokes, destruction of property, shop lifting, and riotous behavior are not acceptable.
- 3. There will be no use of alcohol, drugs, or tobacco by any student at any time. If a student is taking medication for any reason, this must be registered on the medical release/information form. Assigned chaperones should be notified when medication is administered.
- 4. Band members shall participate fully in all programs and events. They are to adhere strictly to the itinerary for the trip; tardiness will result in reprimand and/or consequence by the Director(s).
- 5. Telephone calls home will be done on available pay phones with either your own credit card or calls made collect. Use only pay phones or personal cell phones (allowed on trip).
- 6. Profanity of any kind will not be tolerated.
- 7. Association with those outside of FBHS students and staff is based upon individual circumstance. The Director(s) should be made aware of any outside associations before permission is granted. Be careful to dress and conduct yourself in a manner that will represent our band and school in a positive way.
- 8. Students will adhere to the dress code stated in the FBHS handbook concerning T-shirt advertising and appropriate dress code for each occasion.
- 9. All Policies, Code of Ethics, Drug-Free Schools Statements, and Discipline Procedures, as outlined in the current FBHS Handbook, will be enforced throughout the entire trip. Discipline procedures will be handled through the School Administration, in addition to the Director's disciplinary action.
- 10. Remember our primary goal is to present a superior performance.
- 11. All members of the traveling party must follow the itinerary to the letter.
- 12. Consider the needs and interest of the entire group rather than just yourself.
- 13. No laser pointers, laser pens, weapons of any description should be on trip.

BUS GUIDELINES

- 1. Quiet on campus. Students are to remain silent upon departing and arrival to our destination. This allows the director and chaperones to communicate important details to everyone.
- 2. Students may not enter or leave the bus until instructed to do so. Upon arrival at the performance site or other destination, students will remain on the bus until instructions are given by the Director(s).

- 3. All students will limit their carry on items to instruments smaller than an alto saxophone and their band bag. In case of overnight trips: All members of the traveling party will limit their luggage to one suitcase and one carry on bag. Any hanging bags should be coordinated by each room.
- 4. The loading and unloading of bus and/or van will be done in an orderly manner; procedure will be determined by the Director(s) prior to departure.
- 5. A bus list will be made prior to departure.
- 6. "Carry-on" items must fit in overhead compartment or under seat, and should not interfere with other passengers. Seating is limited!
- 7. Personal entertainment devices (CD players, radios, etc.) permitted only with headphones and are the responsibility of the student. If any personal item goes missing, the band director, staff, chaperones, and Hall County Schools will not be held liable.
- 8. The buses are equipped with video monitors. Movies viewed will be rated PG-13 or less. All movies/videos must be approved by the Director(s).
- Low speaking tones, no standing in the aisles; all school and company bus policies will be enforced.
- 10. A "Lights Out" Time will be designated by the Director(s) should the trip be overnight. Students should separate themselves with males on one side and females on the other.

ROOM/ HOTEL GUIDELINES (Over Night Trips)

- 1. Only assigned roommates or chaperones are allowed in rooms. Due to the large amount of students involved with trips, and the amount of time involved, it is important that all students have the ability to have privacy and sanctuary when needed. All students will enter only those rooms assigned to them. Girls in boys' rooms or boys in girls' rooms will be a serious violation of band rules.
- 2. Students are responsible for any damaged items in their rooms. Report any damaged item prior to moving in. After moving in, students are responsible for the condition of their room.
- 3. No loud TV or music in rooms that may disturb others. Loud talking is not permitted. No running down walkways, corridors, stairs, lobby, etc. Be courteous to other guests—we are not the only ones staying in the hotel. Students must keep in mind that they represent not only themselves, but their band, their school, and their state whenever they travel.
- 4. No phone calls, movie rentals, or room service at the Hotel. Your personal cell phones or public pay phones are your means of communication. No room to room calls are permitted.

"FREE TIME" GUIDELINES

- 1. Boundaries and check-in times will be set and strictly enforced.
- 2. If free time occurs while at hotel, always stay within the boundaries of the motel and its grounds.
- 3. Never leave an area in which the band is designated to be, with anyone, including parents or friends (refer to general guidelines).

CONSEQUENCES

Severity of consequence will be dependent upon the situation, as determined by the Director(s) and school administration.

- 1. Warnings for minor problems or situations.
- 2. Stay with chaperone for a specific amount of time and/or loss of free time.
- 3. Teacher detention—1 day
- 4. Teacher detention—2 days
- 5. Administrative Detention—1 or 2 days
- 6. In-School Suspension—1, 2, or 3 days
- 7. Sent home in addition to ISS or School Suspension. Parents responsible for all travel expenses, transportation, etc.

Ensembles

Marching Band

The Superior Rated Flowery Branch High School Falcon Marching Band is the most visible performing ensemble of the band program. The Falcon Marching Band plays a vital role to all of the football games during the season. Its members are made up of interested students enrolled in the band classes. The marching band also includes members of the auxiliary (color guard and majorettes). Auxiliary members are permitted on an audition basis only and are not required to be enrolled in a band class. Because this ensemble is an extra-curricular activity, there is a financial obligation for participation. The marching band performs at competitions, home and away football games, pep rallies, spring trips, parades, and many other opportunities throughout the school year.

Wind Ensemble

The Flowery Branch Wind ensemble is the most advanced concert performing band. The curriculum is very rigorous performing music at the level 5-6 level on the GMEA music list. Students in the ensemble are expected to perform at a very high level. Placement will be according to audition results.

Symphonic Band

The Flowery Branch High School Symphonic Band is the intermediate band at Flowery Branch High School. Students will be placed into this group according to audition results and director recommendations. Students will play music on the level 3-5 list depending on the ability level determined by the director. The Symphonic Band will perform at the GMEA Large Group Performance Evaluation and other performances throughout the year.

Concert Band

The Flowery Branch High School Concert Band is a performance ensemble comprised of all freshmen instrumentalists. This ensemble will perform music on the level 3 list according to GMEA guidelines. The Concert Band will perform at the GMEA Large Group Performance Evaluation and other performances throughout the year.

Jazz Band

The Flowery Branch High School Jazz Band is made up of any interested students that are interested in learning the art of improvisation. The band is a performance group that participates in festivals and other events held around the community. There may be a minimal cost involved for participation to purchase uniforms.

Winter Drumline

The Flowery Branch High School Indoor Drumline, is an extension of the Flowery Branch High School Marching Band. Students are auditioned near the end of the fall semester and participate in competitions throughout the state during the spring semester. For more information, visit www.sapaonline.net.

Winter Guard

The Flowery Branch High School Winter Guard is an extension of the Flowery Branch High School Color Guard. Students are auditioned near the end of the fall semester and participate in competitions throughout the state during the spring semester. For more information, visit www.sapaonline.net.

Steel Drum Band (Sheer Pan-ic)

This is the newest ensemble to appear at Flowery Branch. This calypso style ensemble will play on steel drums that were manufactured in Trinidad. Placement in this group will be done by audition. Rehearsal will be before school at 7:15am. This group will appear in the community throughout the school year.

Getting Ready for the Marching Season

One of the keys to excellence for the Falcon Bands is the systematic preparation for marching season before the school year begins. By mid-May, the band staff has already invested many hours of preparation and is ready to bring students into this process. For most new students, this preparation begins in July with Rookie Camp. Percussion and Color Guard students will begin in July with the Percussion and Color Guard Pre-Camp Rehearsals.

MARCHING BAND PARTICIPATION POLICY

All students participating in the FBHS Falcon Marching Band are required to be registered for the band class. The only exception is for auxiliary members that have never played an instrument (woodwind, brass, percussion). Auxiliary members that do play an instrument must be registered for a band class.

Students that play instruments and choose to drop band class will not be allowed to participate in the Marching Band or Auxiliary units.

All students participating in the Marching Band must attend Band Camp in July.

This Participation Policy is true for all Davis Middle School participants, too.

Exceptions for students moving into the FBHS school district after the band camp dates may be made at the discretion of the band director.

MARCHING BAND REQUIRED ATTENDANCE POLICY

Marching Band is an extra-curricular activity that expects attendance at all rehearsals and performances. We expect a commitment from each student and their family to be present at all functions of the FBHS Marching Band. For an absence to be excused, you must submit a written request (e-mail works best) 4 weeks in advance of a performance and 2 weeks in advance of a rehearsal. This will give us adequate time to approve or disapprove the request. Please note that simply submitting a request does not mean that it will be approved. Emergencies (documented sickness, medical, death in the immediate family) will be handled on an individual basis. A student will be dismissed from the Marching Band if they exceed 5 absences or 1 unexcused performance.

So, if a student has two unexcused tardies, two excused practices, and one unexcused practice, they will be dismissed from the marching band program:

Examples of Excused Absences

- Illness (resulting in a school absence)
- Death in the Family
- Family Emergency
- Etc.

Examples of Unexcused Absences/Tardies

- Work/Interview
- Camps/Retreats
- Club Meeting
 Make-up work / help session
 Etc.

MARCHING BAND REQUIRED PERFORMANCES

- ALL Football Games on Friday nights (probable Thursday or Saturday night for State Finals) August - December
- Marching Band Competitions Three Saturdays in Sept., Oct. and/or Nov.
- Other community performances to be determined

Please see attached calendar for 2012 rehearsal schedule

CALL TIME

Call Time is when all students should be present in full uniform, with all materials for performance, and ready to go. This is NOT the time when you are just walking through the band room doors. Doors generally open one hour before call time so students are able to get ready. Failure to be at Call Time may result in loss of third quarter.

BAND CAMP

Band camp is an intense week with multiple goals. One goal is to make great progress toward learning the season's show before the school year begins. It is also intended to instill the sense of teamwork and camaraderie that is needed to build a great marching band. Although band camp is long days and hard work, students also believe it is a fun and rewarding experience. The band has one complete show it will perform during each season. The marching element is quite intricate; the music is challenging. The primary activities of band camp are to "block out" the marching drills, practice the music, and put marching and music together.

The Marching Band Camp occurs in July. Attendance to this camp is mandatory for participation in the Falcon Marching Band; dates and times are:

- July 30 August 3, 2012
 - o 8:30 am 4:00pm, 6:00pm 9:00pm (Monday Friday)
 - o 8:00 am 11:30 pm (Saturday)

Lunch is provided each day. The primary activities alternate between inside and outside. Therefore, rain would typically not cause any rehearsal cancellations; the band moves to inside activities. There is a two hour beak in the middle of the day for students to rest, go home, shower or stay at school to relax with a movie in the band room. They are responsible for their dinner during this time.

In addition to the formal benefits of introduction to marching and the specific show music, there are a number of informal benefits that students receive from this initial week. The primary one is the symbolism of a transition to high school: new students are considered by the band to have started their high school careers and are now a part of the band family.

What to bring to rehearsals and camps - There are several pieces of equipment that will make life in marching band easier for those involved. In addition to the items recommended in the "Coping with the Summer Heat" section that follows, here are some items that students are <u>required</u> to have with them during all marching band rehearsals:

- Instrument/Equipment (includes mouthpiece, reeds, oils, etc.)
- Pencils
- Personal Water Bottle labeled with your name (provided to all first year members)

Coping with the Summer Heat - The band staff is keenly aware of the challenges that come with the heat that is common during the summer in Georgia. The band has multiple parent volunteers with medical expertise, and there is always a parent on duty during camp. At the marching practice field, water is provided, though students should supply their own; there are frequent breaks with shade available. Fans and mist (when needed) are also provided during breaks. Volunteers do go onto the field if they suspect a student is not looking well and ask the student to take a break. You can help prevent some of the problems caused by the sun and heat if you assure that your child takes some reasonable precautions.

- Drink plenty of fluids the night before (avoid carbonated beverages)
- Wear light colored clothing
 - Don't wear jeans or other long pants
 - Bring a cooler with your own additional drinks (Gatorade and water is best)
 - Wear sun screen
 - Bring a hat or visor
 - Bring sunglasses
 - Bring insect repellent

As a part of their marching band fee, all new members will be provided with a towel, water cooler, and a visor. Returning members should already have these items from the previous year. If they don't one may be purchased for a total of \$20. The visors are required head gear for marching practices and for the family run-through on band camp Saturday.

As per Hall County regulations, a heat index monitor will be on the field during all outdoor rehearsals. Because these could be either inside or outside rehearsals, rain would typically not cause a rehearsal cancellation.

REGULAR MARCHING BAND REHEARSALS

The beginning of August will begin our regular rehearsal schedule: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00PM – 6:30PM. Attendance is mandatory for all rehearsals. In cases of extreme heat, rehearsals may be rescheduled to evening hours of 6:00 – 8:30 PM. Every effort will be made to inform parents and students if such a change in schedule is needed.

HOME FOOTBALL GAMES

The Falcon Marching Band performs at each home football game. During the week, students will receive information on the time to arrive at the school. Students need to wear their show shirt, shorts, black socks, and their black band shoes. Students are required to stay for the duration of the game.

Parents: The Falcon Marching Band makes its stadium entry at approximately 7:10 for a 7:30 PM game. You will want to be in your seats by this time! Most band parents wear their band spirit wear and sit in the section beside the band. There are many opportunities for parent volunteers at home football games. These include "roadies" (who work with moving equipment and props) and concessions.

The band will begin by performing the National Anthem on the field. From here the band will form the tunnel for the team's entrance to the field. Following Pre-game, the band will make its way to the stands for the first half.

With about nine minutes left in the second quarter, students will begin to exit the stands for their halftime performance.

Usually students get a break for the entire 3rd quarter of the football game. Students use this as their chance to buy food at the concession stands for dinner or a snack. After the end of the game, the band makes its stadium exit and returns to the band room. Pit students will load equipment during the $3^{\rm rd}$ quarter and will receive a break during $4^{\rm th}$ quarter.

Students are required to stay for the duration of the game. Parents may meet students outside the band room after equipment has been stored and the uniforms have been turned returned.

AWAY FOOTBALL GAMES

The Falcon Marching Band performs at all away football games. During the week, students will receive an agenda for game day. This agenda includes the time to arrive at the school and an estimated time of return to the school after the game. Parent volunteer opportunities include chaperones and roadies. Most away games are in the North Georgia area. Many band parents attend the away games to support our band.

All band members are required to ride the buses to and from the away games. Students are required to stay for the duration of the game.

MARCHING COMPETITIONS

The Flowery Branch Falcon Marching Band performs in a number of competitions each season. Typically, these are on a Saturday and are in the months of October and November. The band director usually announces the selected competition dates by August so that students and parents can reserve the dates on their calendars. You should block out the whole day of a competition. The band travels by bus to competitions. Students will receive an itinerary during the week before the event. This itinerary will include time to meet at the high school and an estimated time of return.

Some competitions and performances may include overnight travel. When this occurs, you may be assured that the travel plans (for example, meals and hotel arrangements) are carefully and meticulously planned by a seasoned team of band staff and parent volunteers. You will receive detailed information regarding logistics weeks before any overnight travel. As with any time the band travels, parent chaperones accompany the band, and you may wish to consider volunteering for this role.

Fridays before a competition, it is required that all marching band students dress semi-formally for the school day. Men should wear ties and ladies should wear a skirt and blouse, though pant suits would be appropriate, too. Think "Sunday Best" or business attire.

OTHER SPECIAL EVENTS

Elite marching bands such as the Falcon Marching Band receive invitations to perform at various other events (for example, parades, non-competitive exhibitions, bowl games). If the band director chooses to accept any of these invitations, the transportation and other logistics will be similar to those described above.

MARCHING BAND REGISTRATION AND COSTS

Band members are given registration packets at the Future Falcon Night meeting in the spring to complete and return. All of the following should be returned in an envelope with the student's name clearly labeled by <u>April 13, 2012 for winds and percussion students and May 11, 2012 for Color Guard students</u> to Mr. Naughton at the High School or Mr. Rowell at the Middle School:

- \$100 Deposit (1st Payment of Band Camp)
- Marching Band Registration Form
- Consent and Release Form
- Medical Form
- · Band Handbook Contract
- Instrument Rental Form and Rental Payment (if needed)

***Copies of all forms can be found in the back of this handbook ***

Registration is completed on the first day of Band Camp (7/30/2012). The First Day of Band Camp is also the first opportunity to buy or order Falcon Marching Band spirit wear.

The fees for each student have been set at \$550 per marching band member. This includes all members including but not excluded to the woodwind, brass, percussion and colorguard. For each additional sibling registered for band, the fee will be prorated. It has been our policy to give a \$100 dollar discount for additional siblings in the marching. \$550 for the first member and \$450 for additional siblings. Below is the payment schedule for the 2012 -2013 season:

April 13, 2012 - \$100 deposit

May 15, 2012 - $$100 - 2^{nd}$ payment (This will assure your spot in the show. Failure to pay at this point, or make contact with Mr. Naughton may forfeit your spot in the marching band)

July 23, 2012 – \$100 3rd payment, 1st day of practice

August 1, 2011 - \$150

September 1, 2011 – final payment

Point of Clarification

\$550 is the marching fee for all members including the colorguard, hornline, and percussion. Color guard members are also responsible for purchasing their uniform, warm-ups and any other required accessories.

Marching members who require the use of any instrument that is owned by the band program will be REQUIRED to pay an one time instrument rental fee of \$85. This will cover the cost of both your marching horn and concert season instrument. Percussionists may also incur a fee for sticks and mallets.

MARCHING BAND UNIFORMS

Uniform Fitting - Wind and percussion students will be fitted for marching uniforms during band camp. The fitting process will take approximately 45 minutes to 1 hour. A t-shirt and gym shorts are typically worn under the marching uniform, so these should be worn or brought that day to ensure an accurate fit. Auxiliary students will be sized during the tryouts in March.

Winds and Percussion - Wind and percussion players in the marching band will wear the Flowery Branch High School Marching Band Uniform. This consists of:

- Jacket
- Bibbers (pants)
- Shako (hat)
- Plumes
- Gloves

• Drillmasters Shoes (Parents of new marching band members must order these separate from band fees. Cost is \$30 and can be ordered and sized at Band Camp during the uniform fitting. Veterans may also purchase new shoes at this time.) All members will be required to have the black patent leather shoes for the new uniforms.

Students should wear underneath these uniforms the following:

- Gym shorts
- Show Shirt (provided at the end of band camp)
- Black Tube Socks
- Black long johns/under armor (in case of cold weather)

Marching uniforms are the property of Flowery Branch High School. This includes the shako, bibbers, jacket, and plumes. Students are also issued one pair of gloves which are included in the band fees. Bring a pair of black cotton socks to wear for fitting the band shoes. Additional gloves can be purchased for about \$3.00. Students need to supply their own black cotton socks. (It is wise to own at least 3 pairs.)

Wind and Percussion students are required to wear their Show Shirt and Jeans to school on performance days.

Uniforms are cleaned regularly and repairs are also made as necessary. Students and parents should inform a member of the uniform committee of any repairs necessary. DO NOT TRY TO ALTER THE UNIFORMS YOURSELF!!!!!

Auxiliary Uniforms - Auxiliary Uniforms are purchased by each student as part of the auxiliary fees. Students will be fitted for uniforms during try-outs in the spring semester. Uniforms will belong to the students; however, the students must take on the responsibility for cleaning and remembering to bring every aspect of their uniform for performances. If a student is not in uniform, they will not be permitted to perform.

In addition to the uniform, auxiliary students must provide for themselves the following items:

- Warm-ups and alterations
- Shoes
- Equipment Bag
- Tote Bag
- Corps T-shirt
- 2 pairs of nude colored support hose/tights (sheer to the waist)

These items will be ordered the day of the uniform fitting.

Auxiliary members are required to wear warm-ups with their corps/show T-shirt or band show shirt to school on performance days.

Drum Major Uniforms – Drum Major uniforms are ordered separate from the band. They will be sized the day of Drum Major try-outs during the spring semester. Uniform design will be determined by the Director. These uniforms will be the property and responsibility of the student. All other information regarding Drum Major uniforms (what to wear underneath, shoes, etc.) are the same as Winds and Percussion.

B-Uniforms – On performance days when there is a chance of rain, the Director may require students to wear their B-uniforms. B-uniforms consist of:

- Winds, Percussion, Drum Majors
 - Show Shirt
 - o Jeans
 - Tennis Shoes
- Auxiliary Units
 - o Show or Corps Shirt
 - o Warm-ups

SPIRIT WEAR

The first day of band camp will also be the first opportunity for you and your student to buy or order Falcon Marching Band spirit wear. At the beginning of each new marching band season, the spirit wear committee sells spirit wear items in varying styles and designs to students and their families. In the past, typical items have included hooded sweatshirts, t-shirts, car flags, buttons, car decals, hats, and jackets. The spirit wear is in the school colors with the Falcon Band logo.

Students will be permitted to wear the following band spirit wear in the stands on Friday nights:

- · Band Hat
- · Band Jacket
- Letterman Jacket (vets only)

In addition to the band spirit wear, there is a "show shirt" that is specifically designed to showcase the marching band show for that year. Because the show shirt is required to be worn under the uniform, each student will receive one show shirt as part of his/her uniform. (Most students buy one or two extras; there are occasions where the students need the shirt on Friday night and the next day for a competition.) Many parents and other family members purchase the show shirt to wear to football games and other events. The show shirt is "unveiled" at the Preview Dinner at the end of band camp, but orders can be taken starting the day of registration. Band spirit wear is also sold at Band Parents Association Meetings and at some band events. Preordered items are usually distributed after evening practices. Pictures of spirit wear will soon be available on the band web site www.fbhsband.org and an order form can be downloaded if you like. Watch your e-mails and the web site for more information on how to get your seasonal spirit wear.

Spirit wear can be purchased using cash or check. The band is unable to accept credit cards or debit card at this time.

PICTURE DAY

One day during the first week of school in August will be designated as "picture day." On this day, individual, section, and full band pictures will be taken in uniform. You will have the opportunity to purchase pictures. Also, many parents purchase the "photo button" with their band member's individual picture and wear those buttons to football games and other events.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Band camp is a great opportunity for parents to get involved. Tasks include providing water during practices, helping move equipment ("roadies"), and helping with lunch or dinner. Whether or not you are able to be present, you also can donate food and drinks for meals and snacks. In addition to supporting the band, parents who help with band camp also get a chance to see the tremendous progress that is made across the week. Many parents come to the practice field to watch the rehearsals. Especially 8th and 9th grade parents find it quite surprising to see the amazing effort put in by band staff and students. You should feel welcome to watch the marching rehearsals; the transformation across one week will reinforce to you that your child is taking part in a top notch organization.

Fundraising

It won't take long for you to discover that the FBHS Falcon Band is world-class. Our band director and everyone who works with the program are committed to keeping the band at the top. That takes lots of time, volunteers (you!) and, like everything else, money. Marching Band fees cover a little more than 30% of the cost of your student's participation in the Falcon Band. Fundraising activities are set each spring for the next year's program, and you'll be provided details about your student's obligation and the opportunity to earn above your requirement to help offset the next year's band fees. However, fees and fundraisers alone aren't enough. Sponsorships, donations and gifts are also needed for the program. We all must contribute to make up the difference in our individual obligations and the total cost of the program for our students. Here's how:

- By earning money from fundraisers above your fees
- By each family supporting our fundraising events by volunteering their time
- · By counting on families who have the resources to make additional financial gifts
- By depending on business owners you or those you know to become corporate sponsors, receiving the benefits that accompany that commitment
- By seeking in-kind gifts of food, equipment and services

Plan now to make the commitment necessary to keep the FBHS Band program strong. The results for the program and your student are priceless.

Student Accounts - VERY IMPORTANT!!

Every student has the opportunity to raise funds towards their band fees through fundraisers. Each year, a number of fund raisers will be divided between the student accounts and the general fund. In order for a student to be eligible to receive a credit towards their student account they must have met the following criteria:

1. They must participate in projects that benefit the general fund. Failure to do this could result in your funds being credited to the general fund. Fund raising cannot be limited to benefitting the individual over the BPA.

That is it! Please be willing to help towards the benefit of the organization as well as the benefit of the individual. Student accounts can be used to pay for the following:

- 1. Dues or fees due to the BPA for participation in any ensemble that requires a fee including but not limited to: The Marching Band, Concert Band, Wind ensemble, Symphonic Band, winter guard, winter drumline.
- 2. Purchase of band shoes, gloves, concert outfits (purchased through the band).
- 3. Any other fees towards trips, charter buses, etc

Student accounts cannot be used for but not limited to:

- 1. Private lessons
- 2. Other school activities outside of the band
- 3. Cash
- Personal items not associated with the uniform which will remain the property of the student.

When a student completes their senior year, any remaining funds will be rolled over into the general BPA fund. The only exception to this is in the case of a rising sibling or current sibling in the band. Student account balances may rolled over into the siblings account.

SOME MAJOR FUNDRAISING PROJECTS

There are multiple fundraising events throughout the year. Some of the key events are the Taste of Flowery Branch, Road Atlanta, and Fruit Sales.

TASTE OF FLOWERY BRANCH - The event is made up of a restaurant tasting with more than 20 local businesses, entertainment provided by local groups, and a silent auction with all items donated. Ticket sales are run through the band. This event was begun by Falcon Band parents who believed that our community businesses could directly benefit our band program at Flowery Branch High School. It is an afternoon where we can all be proud of our program and the wonderful support of the area in which we live. This is a single afternoon event in conjunction with the City of Flowery Branch. Therefore, this is an opportunity for parent volunteers to participate in the planning and in working during the afternoon.

ROAD ATLANTA - The Falcon Band has been fortunate enough to be given the opportunity to work at Road Atlanta as a means to raise funds. Parents, friends, family members, and students over 16 years can earn around \$8/hour doing various jobs at Road Atlanta during some of the largest races during the season. Sign-ups begin in the Spring Semester.

HARDSHIP

Mr. Naughton has always had a policy to not exclude membership for financial reasons. This has helped and hurt. During the 2011 school year we ended up being behind a sizeable amount in our general fund. The economy has been very cruel to many of our families and we are not unsympathetic to this. However we need to establish a better policy as to how to handle this. As a booster organization we can set aside funds that are available to help some of our families who are struggling. If our fundraising efforts go well, then we will have a better opportunity to help. Here is how to apply and some of the criteria you must meet:

- 1. You may find a form to download on our website. We will have a section for documents where this can be found.
- 2. Fill out the form and mail it in with the required materials listed on the form.
- 3. You must be willing to, or show evidence that you have worked fundraiser's to help credit your child's account. Participation in BPA functions will be a factor considered when awarding scholarships.
- 4. Awards will be determined by the executive board and will be kept confidential. You will be notified by mail or email of the determination of your application status. Applications will be accepted prior to marching season and again prior to winter semester.
- 5. Awards will also be determined based on the funds that are available in the scholarship account.

Private Lessons

A successful band program consists of several elemental factors working in a perfect balance to create what we know as the superior band program. In order to achieve a level of this nature, all aspects of a program must be studied and constantly improved. We are currently concentrating our efforts on our instrumental private lesson program. Our concept of this program is to offer opportunities and strongly encourage students at the middle school and high school level to study their instruments on an applied level with a private instructor. Each high school student that studies privately will be given the opportunity to teach middle school students. This creates a lasting cycle so that the vital interaction between middle school and high school band students will take place and gives middle school students a sense of belonging to the Flowery Branch Band before they reach the high school level. CW Davis Middle students will then be given the opportunity to teach when they reach the high school level, maintaining this never-ending cycle of knowledge being handed down from one generation of band students to the next. We assure students that participation in this program will increase the band's performance level exponentially.

Why Private Lessons?

When you think about it, band students receive very little independent instruction during school. Band classes in almost every case are quite large and class periods are short and opportunities for one-on-one interaction between student and teacher are minimal. Private study on one's instrument offers an opportunity to explore new ideas and learn new concepts unique to their particular instrument as well as building a stronger fundamental foundation. Private instructors are professional instrumentalists and range from college professors to symphony musicians. These instructors meet at least once per week on an independent basis with the student. The instructor will model characteristic tone, embouchure, posture, and technique and in turn, the student will perform the assigned literature for the instructor for critique. Private lessons will open a new world for the dedicated instrumentalist.

Ok ... It sounds good so far, but is it EXPENSIVE?

Private lessons can be expensive, but through the program at Flowery Branch, we are working to make lessons affordable for everyone that is interested. Lesson costs usually run from \$15-30 per lesson. We will have instructors ready to begin lessons after marching season has concluded (or some time near). Please contact the band office for information regarding lessons.....remember your effort to begin lessons will make a lasting difference in your son/daughter's experience in the Flowery Branch Band.

Awards and Honors

Lettering in Band

To letter in band, students must participate in the marching band <u>and</u> are enrolled in a full year (two semesters) of band classes in addition to no absences during the marching season. Auxiliary members need only participate in marching band with no absences. Students must be current with all fees associated with the band, as well. Service Bars will be awarded to students that meet the lettering requirements and have lettered in a previous year. Letters and service bars are to be worn on letterman jackets which can be purchased during their sophomore – senior years. Letters and service bars are distributed during the award banquet in the spring.

Other Awards and Honors

- All-State Band
- All-State Jazz Band
- District Honor Band
- Governor's Honors Program
- UGA January Music Festival Participant
- Solo and Ensemble Competition
- The John Philip Sousa Award
- The Louis Armstrong Award
- Rookie of the Year
- Most Improved
- Most Outstanding
- Falcon Pride Award
- Scholarships

Forms

The next few pages contain several important documents for students and parents. Please fill out these forms and return to Mr. Naughton at the High School or Mr. Rowell at the Middle School by <u>April1,2011</u>. All of these forms are available online at: <u>www.fbhsband.org</u>

- FBHS Band Handbook Agreement/Contact Info. Form
- Marching Band Registration Form
- Consent Acknowledgement and Release Form
- Medical Form
- Instrument Checkout/Contract

Parent Volunteer Form

GO FALCONS!

Flowery Branch High School Band Handbook Agreement Form

We have read and understand the policies outlined in the Flowery Branch High School Band Handbook and we agree to follow through with all of the expectations described therein.

Students Signature:	Date:
Parent/Guardian Signature:	Date:
C	ontact Information
that we can keep you better inforr	following information for each band student in your family ned about the Flowery Branch High School Band. This Flowery Branch High School and the Flowery Branch High (BPA).
Student's Name:	
Home Phone:	Student's E-mail:
Student's Cell#:	
Father's Name:	
Father's Day Time #:	Father's E-mail:
Mother's Name:	
Mother's Day Time #:	_Mother's E-mail:
Home Street Address:	

Please return this signed form to Mr. Naughton as soon as possible,

State:

Zip:_____

THANK YOU!

FLOWERY BRANCH HIGH SCHOOL BAND PROGRAMS 2012 - 2013 REGISTRATION FORM MARCHING BAND-AUXILIARIES

Welcome to the Flowery Branch High School Falcon Band Program!

A Registration Form is required for all students who are participating in the Flowery Branch Falcon Marching Band. An\$100 non-refundabledepositforMarchingBandisduebyApril \$2012. This deposit holds your place in the show. No late registration or deposits will be accepted, as I have to give the final number of participating students to the Drill/Music designer. Color Guard members may have until May 15st to turn in their \$100 deposit and registration as this date is after try-outs. Please complete all of the information on the registration form, attach a check, place it in an envelope with the student's name clearly labeled and return it to either Mr. Naughton or Mr. Rowell or mail to the Flowery Branch High School Band 6603 Spout

Springs Rd., Flowery Branch, GA 30542. Checks should be made payable to the Flowery Branch High School Band Parents Association (FBHS-BPA). Please place your student's name and the reason for the payment on the check. All fees must be current for your student to participate in activities. All scheduled band camp payments must be paid or other arrangements must be made prior to the start of Band Camp on July 23, 2012 in order for the student to participate. Any questions regarding fees may be emailed to the FBBPA Treasurer TBA.

April 13, 2012 - \$100 deposit

May 15, 2012 - $$100 - 2^{nd}$ payment (This will assure your spot in the show. Failure to pay at this point, or make contact with Mr. Naughton may forfeit your spot in the marching band)

July $23 - $100 3^{rd}$ payment, 1^{st} day of practice

August 1, 2012 - \$150

September 1, 2012 – final payment

*This amount only covers the band camp portion of the marching band. Individual payment plans may be arranged with notification of the band director and BPA President.

As part of the Falcon Marching Band, each student will receive a Marching Band t-shirt to be worn as the official "Falcon Band tee-shirt" under the uniforms. Students will be required to wear these shirts for Marching Band activities. Please be sure to include the student's size on the Registration Form.

The Band's website (www.fbhsband.org) contains band news and important information, forms, calendars, and much more! Make it your homepage or be sure to check it often for the most current information.

I/We agree to attend all required practices, camps, performances, and will pay all fees associated with the activities for which I have registered.				
I understand the contact information on the Registration Form may be used by the Band Directors and Band Parents Association to give important information to parents and students.				
I understand that the Falcon Marching Band deposit is due by April 1, 2011 for winds and percussion and May 1 for Color Guard and these deposits are non-refundable.				
Student's Signature:	Date:			
Parent's Signature:	Date:			
Street Address:				
City:	Zip:			
Home Phone:	Student T-Shirt Size:			
Marching Instrument or Auxiliary:				
Concert Instrument (if different than marching):				

Consent Acknowledgement and Release

Student Name:
School Function/Trips: Away Band Camp, All Away Football Games and Competitions, All Trips, All Concerts and All Festivals for the 2012-2013 School Year.
We, the undersigned parties ofhereby consent to our child's participation in the school trip(s) described above.
We further acknowledge and agree to the following:
The Hall County Board of Education, its members, employees and agents assume no responsibility for personal injuries and/or property damage which might be suffered by our child his property, or the person or property of others during said function/trip, and we hereby express release said Board of Education, its members, employees and agents from any and all liability relating to any such injuries or damages.
The Hall County Board of Education's policies on Student Conduct and Discipline shall be in full force and effect as to all student participants in this function/trip at all times during the same and any violation of any rule(s) contained therein by our child may result in appropriate disciplinary measures including suspension and expulsion as provided in said policies.
The Hall County Board of Education, it members, employees and agents are not responsible for any expenses related to this school function/trip except as otherwise specifically agreed by the in writing.
The Hall County Board of Education may require as a condition to our child's participation in this school function/trip that satisfactory evidence be submitted indicating that our child has sufficient medical insurance in effect during the period of the said function/trip.
Parent Signature: Date:
Student Signature: Date:

FloweryBranchHighSchoolBand ParentAuthorizationMedical,Insurance,and Liability Form

Please fill out the appropriate information and return to the Band Office no later than the first day of Band Camp

Student's Name		Grade	_Instrument
Address		Phone	Birth Date
City		State	_Zip
	ns Name(s)		
_	Father'		
	tudent's MedicalHisto		
Allergies	Asthma	Diabetes	Digestive Problems
Seizures	Heart or Lung Disease	Contact Lenses	Serious Injuries
Rheumatic Fever	Previous Surgery	Head Injuries	Daily Medications
Other – please specify			
	, please give directions for use of m ry considerations:		
Student's Doctor		Doctor's phone_	
	MedicalAuth	norization	
	to a licensed physician, or emergen	ncy medical staff, to	
	e opinion of the school authorities or		, during re present, medical or surgical
		Relationship to S	Student
Insurance Company		recutionship to s	stadont_
		Group Number	
	_		
	ility for all occurrences that may occ e band director, chaperones, and sch		zed band events, performances, and during said events, performances,
Signature of Parent or Leg	gal Guardian		Date
	-32-		

Flowery Branch High School Instrument

Checkout/Contract				
Student:				
Parent/Guardian:				
Address:				
Home Phone:	Work Phone:			
E-mail:	Instrument:			
Make/Model:	Serial:			
Date Checked Out: / /	Date Returned: / /			
*Please Circle One: Check	Cash Student Account			
If Check, Check #: Please list any major/minor blemishes an of issuance:	nd their location on the instrument at the time			
Student Signature:				
Parent Signature:	Date: / /			

^{*}There is a \$75 non-refundable expense for all normal wear and tear on rented instruments for one year. This will cover your use of concert and marching instruments. This does NOT cover negligence or abuse towards the instrument. Any repairs required outside of normal wear and tear will be the sole responsibility of the student/parent/guardian.

HOW CAN YOU BE INVOLVED

The Flowery Branch band Family will count on you for your help and support throughout the school year. If you look at any successful band program, you will find a huge crew of parents around who support it through many different aspects of the program. Below is listed a few of the key areas that you can volunteer to help. Please check areas that you are willing to help:

Chaperone
Concession stand
Equipment moving and hauling (we need someone to pull and help with all aspects of this area. We are losing some key senior parents, lots of work but good fun!!!)
Hospitality
Sewing
AccountingGuard Manager
Guard Manager
Fund raising projects
Uniform committee
Name
Email Address
Phone number
Thank you for your willingness to help. The band program will appreciate more than you will ever know.
Sincerely,
Zinevierj,
Dennis L. Naughton