



BAND CAMP is almost here!!!

Hey Panther Creek Marching Band! We are days away from the start of another award winning year full of fun and friendship, which all begins on Wednesday, July 28. This year we will be filling the field with about 160 members, which will make us one of the biggest bands in Wake County.

To help you get ready for camp and the marching year, here are some updates, tips and requests. This is a lot of information, but even if you are a returning band member, **be sure to read through all of the pages** since a few things have changed since last year. See you in a few weeks!

BEFORE BAND CAMP BEGINS:

- 1) Fill out ALL forms and send with your payment to the band post office box OR, as a last resort, bring all forms to the first day of band camp. Forms can be found on the PCHS Band website, <http://www.panthercreekband.org>. **If your health form is not turned in, you can't participate in band camp!**
- 2) Gather all the necessary band camp paraphernalia:
 - a. Supportive, comfortable shoes
 - b. Huge water bottle or camelback
 - c. Hat or Cap (REQUIRED – we will provide one to wear otherwise!!)
 - d. Sunscreen
 - e. Lunch Bag for lunch every day
 - f. Lightweight clothing
 - g. Spray bottle (for misting hot places with water!)
- 3) Get in shape! Particularly if you and your kids are spending the summer relaxing, it is time to start marching. Our show this year will performed at a tempo of **168, which is faster than you think!!** The best way to prepare for marching at this tempo is to find a song (or use a metronome) which plays at 168 and walk at least a mile every day to the beat.
- 4) Practice your instrument! Our show music challenging – come to camp ready to play. We hope to have the show music available for download before camp, but if not practice your current music or at least play a few scales.
- 5) Get some sleep --- the days at band camp are long and tiring, for chaperones too 😊
- 6) Call your squad leader if you have any questions. You should have this information, but if you don't please call or email Rebecca Dekker, rdেকker@nc.rr.com, to get the name and phone #.

EACH DAY OF BAND CAMP:

- 1) Show up early, especially if you have forms to turn in the first day.
- 2) Wear lightweight clothes and bring your lunch, hat, sunscreen, instrument and smile.
- 3) Each day, each squad will have an assigned task. You are ALL responsible for it, not just the squad leader. Come prepared to help.
- 4) Be ready to make new friends and see old ones again – you will be seeing a lot of each other!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

We still need volunteers to help with all areas of band camp this year, from making lunch or dinner for the staff, to monitoring band members during the day, to helping to organize the "Informance"

Here are some specific areas you can help:

Volunteer:

Chaperone at Band Camp: We think that we have the schedule filled. However, if you would like your name added to a substitute list, we would appreciate your willingness to step in case of an unexpected change.

**** please remember that if you are volunteering you need to renew your Wake County volunteer registration before camp starts. You can do this at any year round school ****

Donate:

Freeze Pops Each band member gets 2 of these per day, so we need hundreds!! Please bring pops to school the first day of band camp.

Lend:

Hand Carts: at least 2 to carry equipment, water, and the occasional chaperone back and forth to the field (OR if you have a golf cart to lend that would be even better!)

Shade Tents: we need as many as possible, but at least 2 more

Hoses: we have permission to run water out to the field (yeah!!) but need about 8-10 hoses to get it from the school across the parking lot to the practice field (softball field)

Misters: for the end of the hose or hand held, to spray down the sweaty marchers and chaperones! Last year we had one very popular mister, so 2 or 3 this year would be great

To volunteer, donate or lend, please email or call Rebecca Dekker: rdekker@nc.rr.com or 919-608-3434 or Barb Magee: bmagee6@nc.rr.com or 919-605-9980; be sure to mention what volunteer position you would like, or what you can donate or lend.

THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DO! We will see you soon!

Rebecca Dekker