

May 11, 2020

To All Prospective Marching Band Members & Their Families:

It gives me great pride to welcome you to our 53<sup>rd</sup> year of the award-winning Arlington High School Marching Band (AHSMB)! The Band is the five-time defending New York State Champions and will welcome over 40 new members this season!! There is no doubt that the current state of our Nation will cause numerous and possible unforeseen complications, but the staff remains committed to providing the best possible experience for students. We have been working for months to prepare and cannot wait to get started!!

The amount of exciting news and information is too great to be included in a letter, so each year (this year virtually) we gather to "kick-off" and register for our new season. At that time, you will have many questions answered, receive lots of information, hear about our very important volunteer opportunities, find out information about the show theme for the next year, sign-up for the 2020 Marching Band, and much more!!

There are two items that I would like to bring to your attention now: first, marching band does cost money, but we have established programs that allow everyone to participate no matter what their financial situation. *NO ONE SHOULD MISS OUT BECAUSE OF MONEY ISSUES!!* Second, many students think the Marching Band is "very time-consuming." It does take time, but even in past years **WE REHEARSE LESS THAN MOST SPORTS TEAMS AT AHS**. We practice only *two nights a week* once school starts. We find that Marching Band, *good grades*, and a successful first year at Arlington can go together!!!

Our first event will be our Virtual Kick-off to Registration on: **SUNDAY, June 14th @ 2:00pm.** ALL MEMBERS & AT LEAST ONE PARENT/GUARDIAN *SHOULD* ATTEND. A link for the meeting will be posted on the Band's website the week before the meeting.

At any time, if you have a question, do not hesitate to contact me. I sincerely hope you are as excited about our season as I am. Your talents and great energy will help guarantee a great year filled with great friends and great memories!

Sincerely,

Darrell Keech, Director

"A Commitment to Excellence" www.arlingtonband.com