



It's Great to be a Fighting Indian!

WHY VBHS BAND?

- **Acceptance:** We embrace hearts, minds, and all walks of life! We celebrate the individual potential of all of our Fighting Indians, which makes it hard to feel out of place.
- **Purpose:** Be part of something bigger than you! VBHS Band has a tradition that goes back more than eighty years, and we value your contribution!
- **Experience:** Many of our alumni say that band was the best part of their time in high school. Make memories that last forever!
- **Character:** Extend your determination and grit, demonstrate your integrity, and share your compassion for others!
- **Leadership:** Every member is vital to our success! Discover your hidden gifts and talents and share them with your community! Make an impact that continues for generations!

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT?

What is the time commitment? On average our rehearsals are scheduled 1-2 times per week in August, September, and October. Students perform at every home and away football game from August until mid-November. There is at least one concert performance per 9-week grading period, and occasional concert rehearsals throughout the year.

Can I still do sports and after-school activities if I join band? We encourage Fighting Indians to be well-rounded and to pursue other activities outside of band. Many of our students participate in athletics and school clubs.

What opportunities are available in band? Throughout the year, students participate in a wide variety of performances and earn both individual and group accolades. In addition to a variety of honor band nominations, students can earn state recognition and scholarships in composition and jazz performance. Opportunities for leadership or mentoring roles are available to students. Through participation in band, student may earn community service hours and scholarship money for college.

Do students have room in their class schedule for band? Yes! Please consult a guidance counselor and/or director if you have any questions about scheduling.

Will band have an impact on my other classes? VBHS Band places a great deal of importance on the academic performance of our Fighting Indians. Students are required to maintain an expectation of grades and attendance in order to participate. Directors and student mentors are on hand to assist students in their academic performance as needed.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

- Students and parents should fill out the accompanying *VBHS Band Rising 9th Grade Questionnaire* and turn in to their middle school band director.
- Take a look at the accompanying *Important Dates to Remember Handout* and get those summer dates on your calendar. We will provide you access to the VBHS Band Calendar at the June 6th New and Returning Parent Meeting.

FAQ'S

Q. Can I do Jazz Band?

A. VBHS has a rich history of jazz, and we encourage all of our students to get involved! Students are selected for one of our three jazz bands, which perform a diverse repertoire. Our groups perform swing, funk, Latin, cool, big band, and modern charts. Contact veroband@yahoo.com for more information about joining jazz band.

Q. Am I required to be in marching band?

A. All students are required to participate in marching band and must also be enrolled in a concert band or color guard class.

Q. What if I know right now that I can't attend Band Camp?

A. Please contact a director at veroband@yahoo.com as soon as possible.

Q. What does it cost to be in band?

A. There is a band activity fee of \$200 which is paid in installments. Students can offset the cost of their fee by participating in qualifying band fundraisers throughout the year. For any student needing additional assistance, the Fighting Indians Band Boosters provide full and partial scholarships for band fees.

In addition to the Activity Fee, students will need to provide the following items:

- Red Band Polo Shirt
- Marching Band Performance Shoes
- Concert Band Tuxedo Shirt
- Concert Uniform Shoes
- Uniform Cleaning and Maintenance Fee

We are currently working with our vendors and making every effort to keep costs low. Information will be provided regarding the individual cost of each of these items.

Please visit the band website at www.vbhsband.com or call our office at **564-5451 / 564-5413** or e-mail us at veroband@yahoo.com if we can assist you or provide further information about the band at Vero Beach High School.

Sincerely,
Page Howell & Jessica Russell, Band Directors