

May 5, 2008

Students,

Greetings from the Elkins Band and staff! We are very excited about the 2008-09 EHS Band - 196 students have already signed up for band class! We are happy that you have chosen to become a part of the great Elkins Band tradition.

By this time, your band director should have given you audition music for next year's band class placements. If not, please talk to them so you can pick up your music. The EHS staff will begin listening to you play on May 21st. When we come, we will have you fill out an information sheet. Please make sure you know your address, parent's phone numbers, and their e-mail addresses. Your audition will consist of scales (concert Bb, F, Eb, Ab, C) and the two prepared pieces you received. Start practicing now – don't wait until the last minute!

When we have finished all of the auditions, we will email your band director the results so you will know which class you will be in. At EHS, there are three classes: Concert, Symphonic, and Honors. All of you will be placed in one of those courses. This next part is important: **All students must participate in Marching Band!!!** The only exceptions to this rule is students who play a fall EHS sport that conflict s with marching band, and students with a physical handicap that cannot march. Otherwise, everyone must participate.

To get things started, we hold three mandatory rehearsals before the end of the school year. All three rehearsals will be held at Elkins:

Tuesday May 27	5 – 8pm
Thursday May 29	5 – 8pm
Saturday May 31	4 – 8pm

Again, remember – these dates are not optional. All students MUST attend. You will receive music, information sheets, forms, and more importantly, music and marching instruction. When you come to these rehearsals, make sure you wear shorts, a t-shirt, and tennis shoes (no flip flops or boots!). You will also need to bring sunscreen and a water jug filled with ice water. If you own your instrument, bring it with you. If you play a larger size school-owned instrument, we will check that out to you on May 27th.

This year's band fee is \$125. You will receive a sheet at rehearsal to take home to your parents that has detailed information on what the fee covers. **A \$50 deposit is due no later than June 2nd.** This deposit will reserve your spot in the 2008 halftime show. *If you do not send in the deposit, you will not have a spot in the show!!!!!!!!!!* The remaining \$75 is due August 5th. You can bring it with you to band camp. The \$50 deposit can be brought to the Elkins Band Hall, or you can mail it to:

Elkins H.S. Band
Attn: Band Fee
7007 Knights Court
Missouri City, TX 77459

****Please make all checks to: Elkins Band Booster Club**

We are extremely excited about your membership in the EHS Band! This will be a busy fall – we are competing at the Bands of America Houston Regional, the Texas State Marching Championship, as well as several other local contests. We have an excellent show chosen that you will find very exciting and fun to perform! If you or your parents have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us!

Scott Estes

Drew Farmer

Director of Bands
Fine Arts Department Chair
281-634-2639
Scott.estes@fortbend.k12.tx.us

Associate Director of Bands
281-634-9907
ronald.farmer@fortbend.k12.tx.us