

# Viking Marching Band 2021 – Season & Registration Information for Current FHS Students

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1. **The Viking Marching Band is an extra-curricular ensemble (16th year) and rehearses outside of the traditional school day.** The VMB is optional for Fremd Band students and not part of their curricular band grade. The band is made up of freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors at FHS. Band students need to be enrolled in one of our four curricular bands to participate in the VMB. The majority of all fall rehearsals will occur on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30-8:00 pm. The 2021 season will consist of 21 evening rehearsals, four Saturday rehearsals, four Saturday competitions, and five Friday night football games. The VMB's total enrollment is usually 120-130 total students.

2. **What does the VMB play?** The VMB season consists of an eight minute competition show which is also perform at half-time for home football games. The band also performs a pre-game show of four songs (two popular/familiar songs, "National Anthem", and "Fremd Fight Song"). The VMB also performs a variety of 10-15 different "Stand Tunes" in the stands during home football games.

3. **VMB 2021 Season Calendar** - Please refer to the tentative 2021 fall season schedule (August, September, and October) for all season rehearsal and performance commitments. The calendar includes all rehearsals, home football games, and Saturday competitions. Some rehearsals are tentative and may change pending stadium field availability. The final schedule should be announced and posted in May.

4. **Percussion Students** – Please join us for the following clinic and auditions in planning to be in the 2021 VMB:

- Drumline and Front Ensemble Clinic – Wednesday April 21, 3:30-5:30 pm – Band Room. This event is required for any percussionists interested in the DL or FE for the 2021 VMB season.
- Drumline and Front Ensemble Auditions – Wednesday April 28 – 2:00-5:00 pm. Students will sign up for individual audition times with Mr. Lober.

5. **Woodwind and Brass students** – Please join us for the following clinic if you plan to be in the 2021 VMB:

- VMB Woodwind/Brass Clinic Night – Tuesday April 27, 3:30-5:00 pm – Band Room
- All students (high school and eighth graders) are required to perform with instrument specific PPE items – musician masks, bell covers, and instrument bags. This clinic is very important for understanding more about the basics of marching, posture, horn angles, and much more. The clinic will also help you determine if the 2020 VMB is a good fit for you.

6. Refer to the Fremd Bands homepage ([www.fremdbands.weebly.com](http://www.fremdbands.weebly.com)) for the VMB 2021 Show reveal video, an mp3 for our 2021 "Believe" competition show, and upcoming clinic information.

7. **Full VMB rehearsals in July** - These rehearsals are required for all VMB members unless you are out of town or have a family conflict. Rehearsal dates and times will be announced in May. Students are also expected to attend 2-3 summer sectionals as announced by section leaders.

- Drumline and Front Ensemble rehearsals – These will occur at FHS in June and July. Sectionals are run by band directors or VMB percussion instructors. More information will be sent to our percussionists in May.

8. **Viking Marching Band "Band Camp" Week** - Students participating in the fall 2021 Viking Marching Band must be able to attend the "Band Camp" scheduled for August 2-7. About 75% of all music and marching for the entire season is taught during this very important 5 ½ day Band Camp!

- Tentative times - Monday through Friday: morning block from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, one hour lunch break, afternoon block from 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm.
- Saturday August 7th is from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. The "Parent Preview Performance and Picnic" will be from 12:00-1:00 pm in the stadium.

9. **VMB 2021 Parent Registration Meeting** – Tuesday May 18<sup>th</sup> evening times TBA, FHS Cafeteria. One parent and each student should join us for this registration meeting. More information will be emailed to parents as we get closer to the event. Additional information on the VMB fundraising amount will be emailed to parents prior to the meeting.

10. **School year evening practices and performances** - It is imperative that all students/parents understand the importance of each student attending all scheduled evening rehearsals and performances.

- Students cannot miss rehearsals or performances due to job commitments, doctor's appointments, or other non-school related reasons. If a student is sick from school they are excused from the evening practice and should not attend.
- When a student is absent from a practice it affects the entire section and numerous positions around the missing person.
- Evening rehearsals will start promptly at 5:30 pm and end at 8:00 pm, with a few exceptions.
- Students can perform in the VMB and a fall FHS sport or Musical, however this is an extremely demanding schedule for the student. Two to three times per week the student will be required to go from one practice straight into the other with a very short break in between.
- Students planning to participate in the VMB and a fall sport must inform the band directors by the May 18<sup>th</sup> registration meeting at the latest.

11. **Viking Marching Band Season and Competition Philosophy:**

- The Viking Marching Band is an extra-curricular marching band that serves Fremd High School, as well as competing at fall marching band competitions for the experience, atmosphere, and opportunity of each event.
- The VMB strives to improve our overall performance and point total throughout the entire competitive season. Our fall competition show will evolve and change throughout the season, with the show being completed in early October. We offer an outstanding extra-curricular marching band, while also allowing the students to participate in other commitments during the fall months.
- We do not believe in competing against other schools or stressing the importance of rankings. We stress individual, section, and total band growth as the primary goals for the VMB season.

*\*Thank you for your interest in the Viking Marching Band and please check your email for upcoming announcements and information!*