

Forsyth Central “Flash of Crimson” Band Information

Introduction to Our Program





Program Overview

Registration

For current 8th grade band members (Woodwind, Brass and Percussion) that are doing Band in High School:

Register for Intermediate Band

For current 8th graders that are interested in Orchestra:

Register for Beginning Orchestra

For current 8th graders that are auditioning for Colorguard:

Colorguard is Extra-Curricular, no class needed

Different Parts of our Program:

- **Wind Band Classes**
- **Percussion Classes**
- **Orchestra Classes**
- **Jazz Band Class**
- **Colorguard (Extra-Curricular Only)**
- **Marching Band (Extra-Curricular Only)**

Wind Band Classes

Consist of:

- Flute
- Clarinets (including Bass Clarinet)
- Saxophones (All)
- Trumpet
- Horn
- Trombone and Euphonium
- Tuba
- Concert Percussion (Non-Marching)

Percussion Classes

**For Marching Band Percussionists Only.*

Consists of:

- Snare
- Tenor
- Bass Drum
- Marimba, Xylophone, Vibraphone, etc.
- Timpani
- Electronics (Synths, Piano, etc)
- Cymbals, Toms, and all kinds of other Percussion

Orchestra Classes

***Open to Beginners**

Consists of:

- **Violins**
- **Violas**
- **Cellos**
- **Basses**

Jazz Band Class

***Must also take Wind Band or Percussion Class.**

Mainly for Upperclassmen.

Consists of:

- **Saxophones (Alto, Tenor, Bari)**
- **Trombones**
- **Trumpets**
- **Piano**
- **Guitar**
- **Bass Guitar**
- **Drumset**
- **Auxiliary Percussion**

Colorguard

No class requirement.

Extra-Curricular only.

Consists of:

- **Dance (Choreography)**
- **Flag**
- **Sabre**
- **Rifle**

The Parts of the Forsyth Central Band

- When you're looking at the entire band, it's important to understand that we have curricular and extra-curricular ensembles (i.e. groups composed of different instruments).
- Curricular refers to the classes that we have during the school day. We'll break those down later.
- Extra-Curricular refers to after school activities and performing ensembles.

The Curricular Part of the FCHS Program

- We offer different band classes that are focused on **instrumentation** (how many of each instrument we need) and **skill level** (how skilled the students are at playing that instrument).
- The Band Classes that we offer are Concert Band II, Concert Band I, Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Front Ensemble Class, and Battery Class.
- The Auditions in April will put students into their band class depending on **instrumentation** and **skill level**.

The Band Classes

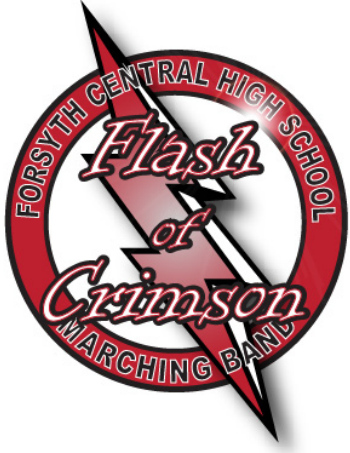
- Beginning Band (**a.k.a Concert Band II**) - Our lowest level band class that will work on basic to intermediate skills. Fundamentals and music theory will be worked on. (Performance obligations may be less, if group needs more time for basics).
- Intermediate Band (**a.k.a. Concert Band**) - This band covers intermediate skills and concepts and should be playing at a 3/4 level. (Normal performance obligations). Most incoming 9th graders will end up in Concert Band.
- Advanced Band (**a.k.a. Symphonic Band**) - This band will covers Advanced skills and concepts and should be playing at a 4/5 level. (Normal performance obligations). Above average 9th graders may make this ensemble depending on skill and instrumentation.

The Band Classes Cont.

- Mastery Band (a.k.a. **Wind Ensemble**) - Our top playing group of woodwinds and brass. This group covers Mastery level skills and concepts and should be playing at a 5/6 level. (High performance obligations). Students making Wind Ensemble as a incoming 9th grader are rare.
- Front Ensemble (a.k.a. **Pit Class**) - This class is for percussionists and has a focus on mallet keyboard instruments as well as concert percussion. This class also provides percussion for the wind classes.
- **Battery Class** - This class is and has a focus on Battery (Drum) instruments. This class also provides percussion for the wind classes and will have units that focus on concert percussion as well.
- **Jazz Band** - This class is for saxophones, trombones, trumpets and rhythm section. This class **MUST** be taken in addition to one of the aforementioned classes and is designed for students that are very serious about playing music.
- **Orchestra** - Orchestra class is for string players that play violin, viola, cello, or string bass. Like Jazz Band, this class would be taken in addition to the normal band class.

Typical Class Day for Band

Period	Mr.Tucker	Mr. Grass
1st	Orchestra	Planning
2nd	Planning	Concert Band II
3rd	Battery Class	Planning
4th	Symphonic Band	Orchestra
5th	Planning	Concert Band I
6th	Jazz Band	Planning
7th	Front Ensemble Class	Wind Ensemble



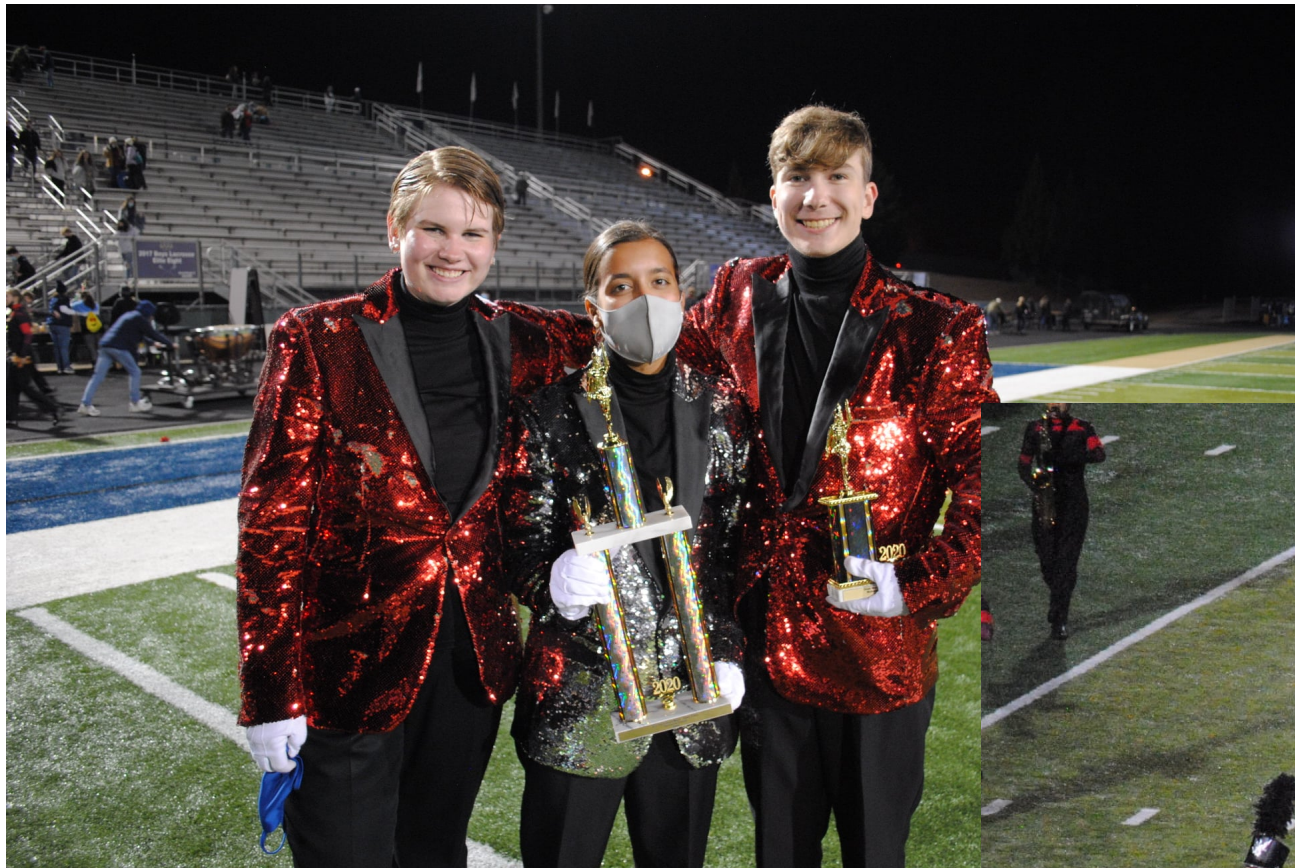
Marching Band

- The Flash of Crimson Marching Band is comprised of students from ALL of our band and percussion classes.
- Students MUST take a band class to be in Marching Band, though not all students must be in Marching Band to be in class.
- Marching Band meets after school from July-October. Band classes might work on Marching Band music in class during this time, but that won't be all that we do.
- The Marching Band plays at all Pep Ralleys, Football Games, and Competitions in the Fall.

Why do Marching Band?

- Perform in front of thousands of people!
- Learn the importance of hard work, dedication, and pride!
- Connect to the school in a meaningful and important way!
- Earn your Letter for your Lettermen Jacket and other recognitions!
- Get a tan and get in shape!
- It's fun for the members AND the parents!





What is the “Flash of Crimson”?

- “Flash of Crimson” is the nickname of the Forsyth Central Marching Band and has been in use since at least the 1970s (and possible before). The “Flash of Crimson” name generally refers to the Marching Band.
- The “Flash of Crimson” Marching has won countless awards and trophies. In the last few years, we have named “Grand Champions” at multiple band competitions, as well as being undefeated in Percussion. Our color guard was name Top Colorguard at a competition last year.

Now what?

- First thing is to **register** for a band class for the 2021-22 school year.
- All students (woodwind, brass, and percussion) should sign up for **Intermediate Band**.
- Students **MUST** be in a band class to participate in band at Forsyth Central.



Next Up?

- Audition material for Class Placements should be going online in the next few weeks for **Wind Players**. We'll post the material at www.flashofcrimson.com.
- **Percussionists** will attend 3 days of Clinics/Try-outs on April 19th, 20th and 22nd from 4pm-6pm. Try-outs are Open to any interested students with music experience.
- **Colorguard** Try-outs will be April 19th, 20th and 22nd from 4pm-6pm in the Forsyth Central Bandroom. Open to any interested students, NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED
- **Orchestra** - No Audition, just sign up for class.

What does the Audition determine?

- The staff will use the results of the April Auditions to put students into classes for the 2021-22 school year.
- This will also be used to set up sections in the Marching Band. Students need to display at least Intermediate skills in order to be in Marching Band.
- Don't be nervous. Do your best and it will be fine!



Parent Meetings?

- There will two Meetings to get more information for Parents.
- **Rising 9th Grade Parent Meeting** on Feb. 10th at 6:30pm. ***This will be a virtual meeting, so be on the lookout for a link to the meeting.***
- **Incoming 9th Grader Band Information Meeting/Q and A** on Feb. 17th at 6:30pm. ***This meeting will be virtual, so be on the lookout for a link to the meeting.*** This meeting will cover the basics of the program, Marching Band, fundraising, volunteering, etc.

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- We'll be sending out paperwork with the financial details in March/April, so be on the look-out for that!
- We have tons of fundraising opportunities to raise money to help off set band fees. We'll be talking about those at the Incoming 9th Grader Band Meeting.
- We may be working Ameris events as a way to make money for your students account! And working Swim Meets!

Band Camp?

The dates for the 2021 Marching Band Camp have been set.

- No Rehearsals in June!!
- Full Band Camp Week 1 - July 13th through July 16th from 9am-5pm
- Full Band Camp Week 2 - July 19th through July 23th from 9am-6pm.
- Mini Camps - July 26th and July 27th from 5pm-8pm.
- Full Band Evening Rehearsals on July 29th and August 3th from 5-8:00pm
- Non-Marching Band students do not attend Band Camp.

Marching Band Practices Once School Starts?

- Once School starts on Aug. 5th, the Marching Band has practice on the following schedule:
- Mondays - Percussion from 4-6:30. Brass and Woodwinds alternate Monday practices from 4-6.
- Tuesdays - Full Band from 4-6:30
- Thursdays - Full Band from 4-6:30
- We'll have a couple of Saturday Camps throughout the season.

Next?

- By the May 10th Band Booster Meetings, students should have turned in their:
 - Marching Band Contract (Or Non-Marcher Contract)
 - Medical Form
 - Permission to Participate Form
 - 1st payment for Marching Band (Or Non-Marcher Payment)
 - Students using school instruments will need to their Maintenance fee. Percussionist will pay their disposables fee for drum-heads, mallets, and drumsticks.
- **Note: You'll receive all of the contracts and forms in mid-March.**

Charms?

- In the Forsyth Central Band Program, we use a program called Charms Office in order to send emails, keep up with inventory, keep up with fees, assign instruments, etc.
- Each student will have an account by the end of the school year. This will be a different account than middle school Charms.
- Be on the look-out for information about Charms in April!
- We have a Charms tab on www.flashofcrimson.com with information about how to login and what you can do on it. Keep in mind, you probably won't have a Forsyth Central Charms account until late April/early May.
- Visit www.charmsoffice.com and click Parents/Students/Member login. Enter crimsonband in the school code. This will let you look at the Public Calendar, email staff and look at handouts.

Check-List

- Sign up for a band class. All incoming 9th graders should sign up for Intermediate Band. If you have any issues, just shoot me an email and we'll work through it. There are ways for STEM students to take band. Just ask me or your counselor and we'll go through that.
- Start working on the first 8 GMEA scales. We'll get you the rest of the audition material soon.
- Be on the look-out for our Band Registration paperwork.
- Be on the look-out for information about getting your Charms Login. Once you get your Charms Login, you should be receiving Band emails.

Graduation Requirements

- 23 total credits
- 4 English credits
- 4 Math credits
- 4 Science credits
- 3 Social Studies credits
- 3 CTAE, Foreign Language, or Fine Arts credits
- 4 additional Elective credits
- 1 Health/Personal Fitness credit
- ***Four-year colleges require a minimum of two years in the same World Language