



Dear 2010-2011 VISTA Band Families,

I am so thrilled about the possibilities in the new year of band. Our enrolment is HUGE, it is a four year, AND there are so many opportunities to grow and make great music with great people!

Make sure you check out the schedule for Marching Band Camp. If you have conflicts, email me ASAP! You will notice some changes from past years, so be sure you look through it carefully even if you are a veteran band family. If you need a school owned instrument, please email your request immediately, and I will issue instruments on the first day of band camp. Bring your open minds, willing hearts, and musical inspiration to every rehearsal! Let the work begin!

As always,

Mrs. Jerri Neddermeyer  
Director of Band, Saint Thomas Academy  
Office) 651-683-1569 (Checked infrequently over the summer)  
[jneddermeyer@cadets.com](mailto:jneddermeyer@cadets.com) (checked frequently)  
Cell) 651-675-6111 (for more urgent means of communication)

The core leadership team has been working hard to plan the upcoming year. New families will be receiving calls from a team member from time to time to ensure the receipt of all this information. If you have questions about the band program, you can feel free to ask them or you can contact me! It is very important to me that every new family feels comfortable with the information and all of the “what about” questions that are part of transitioning to STA. Band is a great place for new students to meet classmates and students of all ages before school even starts. Feeling “new” is so much easier when you have the band with you!

#### **2010-2011 Leadership Team**

Tim Schoen: Senior, Lead Drum Major, Military Band Commander  
Leah Feitl: Senior, Assistant Drum Major, Band Council President, VIS Representative  
Philip Evans: Junior, Assistant Drum Major, Band Council  
Tom Ingebrigtsen: Senior, Flute/Clarinet Section Leader, Band Council  
Andrew Nguyen: Senior, Alto Saxophone Section Leader  
Dan Sosa: Junior, Trumpet/French Horn Section Leader  
Kevin Cooper: Senior, Low Woodwind/Low Brass Section Leader  
Max Johnson: Senior, Drumline Commander, Band Council  
Spencer Loufek: Senior, Drumline Co-Commander

## **Let's look ahead to our year in band!**

### **Marching Band Camp**

To prepare for field show marching band, we will be having our 5th Annual Marching Band Camp. Our goal is efficient practice to prepare the best visual and musical show possible. We will have camp during the summer so that once school starts, we can concentrate on the important business of being great students! I realize that we are all involved in many activities, and the name of the game is communication! If you have conflicts with any rehearsal or performance, please let me know as soon as possible. I am writing the drill and arranging the music for our field show. I can come up with some unique solutions to accommodate students participating in fall sports, for example, but I need to know about the conflicts in order to create the best possible level of participation in all activities. So, please, check over the schedule, and email me with all conflicts with camp and/or pep band performances ASAP!

#### **“Where do I go?”**

All rehearsals will be held at STA either in the band room or in the stadium. We will gather for the first several rehearsals in the band room.

#### **“What do I wear?”**

Students are, of course, out of uniform for band camp rehearsals. Please, make sure that T-shirt logos are appropriate or you will be asked to change. Please dress comfortably and for the heat. Avoid dark colors. Shirts, shorts, socks and tennis shoes are required at all rehearsals no matter how hot the day. We all aspire to acquire the band tan for which all golfers will have envy. Men, you will wear shirts at all times. Ladies, sleeveless shirts are permitted, but spaghetti strap tank tops, tube tops, and halter tops are not. NO SANDALS OF ANY SORT! Socks, YES! Shoes, YES! Hats and sunglasses are good additions to your fashion repertoire!

#### **“What do I bring?”**

Make sure to bring your instrument (in working order) with all reeds and accessories that you need. Bring your music and drill charts once you have been issued a set. Bring your own water bottle jammed with ice. We have the hose down on the field to refresh your bottle, but we will not be providing cups. I don't like waste or picking up other people's garbage. You will need to bring a bag lunch as well. I do not have a cooler large enough for lunches, so bring your own little cooler or don't bring food that needs to be cooler than “band room temperature” (for those that don't know, that is considerable hotter than regular room temperature). Sun block and bug repellent are also helpful extras if not necessities.

The most important thing to bring is your open mind and heart! We will be working hard, serving others, and making new friendships. You will receive in proportion to what you give.....be open and giving, and you will find others who are also open and giving.

## **Important Dates:**

**VISTA Band will perform at a variety of events over the course of the year. We will not be participating in the Autumn Daze parade this year as we are committing to two competitions for field show marching. Add them to your calendar! Please communicate any known conflicts ASAP!**

### **Fall Marching Band/Pep Band Performances:**

- ♪ Thursday, September 2, 2010: STA Home Football Game
- ♪ Friday, September 17, 2010: STA Home Football Game
- ♪ Saturday, September 25, 2010: Rehearsal/Competition Details TBA

“Music of the Night” Irondale Marching Band Competition

FYI: These are our first competition events, EVER and it is very important that all students participate. Please ensure that this is part of your family schedule for Fall. We cannot perform well without every student. If there is a conflict with another performance/meet/event, please email right away! **They will both be ALL DAY EVENTS!**

- ♪ Saturday, October 2, 2010: Champlin Park “Rebel Classic”  
Marching Band Competition, Rehearsal Details TBA
- ♪ Friday, October 8, 2010: Homecoming Football Game
- ♪ Wednesday, October 20, 2010: STA Home Football Game

FYI: This is right before MEA weekend, but students should plan on performing that night. **Please do not plan to go out of town until after the game is over.**

\*There will be a couple more fall pep band events for non-football sports. These will be added to the calendar for the start of the school year.

\*Also, STA Football and Soccer State Tournaments will be attended by pep band should either/both of those teams qualify. We also will support VIS Volleyball should it enter play-offs.

### **Concert Band Performances: (These are the CONFIRMED dates for the calendar)**

Tuesday, Dec. 7, 2010: VISTA Band Concert, 7pm VIS Auditorium (Grades 7-12)  
Wednesday, Feb. 16, 2011: VISTA Band Concert, 7pm VIS Auditorium (Grades 7-12)  
March 11-16, 2011: VISTA Concert Band Tour: Chicago (NOT BRAZIL\*)  
Friday, May 6, 2011: VISTA Band Concert, 7pm VIS Auditorium (Grades 7-12)  
Saturday, May 14, 2011: VISTA High School Band Banquet, 6pm, STA Cafeteria  
Thursday, June 2, 2011: STA Graduation, St. Paul Cathedral 7:30pm

\*Due to fundraising policy and Mrs. Nedd’s health in the 2009-2010 school year, the previously planned tour to Brazil in March of 2011 has been changed to the wonderfully musical destination of Chicago. Tour itinerary and details will be presented in the Fall.

**FYI: Honors VISTA Jazz Band** will be directed by Mr. Bill McCarthy for the 2010-2011 school year. Preliminary auditions have been held, but incoming students with an interest in jazz will be heard in the fall before school starts. Final instrumentation will be determined at that time. If you have any further questions, please contact Mr. McCarthy directly, and he will get back to you in a timely fashion. Understand that email and voicemail are checked less frequently during the summer months.

Bill McCarthy: (voicemail) 651-454-1555 ext. 386 or (email) [bmccarthy@cadets.com](mailto:bmccarthy@cadets.com)