Important Away Camp Information / Final Instructions

August 17th – 22nd at Michindoh Conference Center, 4545 E. Bacon Rd, Hillsdale, MI. (517) 523-3616

Pre-Camp Medication check-in: Mrs. Zaharof will be available for the final time prior to Saturday morning on Friday from 4 – 5 PM. A face-to-face meeting with a nurse is extremely beneficial for students that take prescription medications or have a chronic health concern to ensure accuracy and understanding between parent, student, and the nurses.

- All medications must be unexpired and in their original, labeled, container(s). Place inside a Ziploc-type baggie, write your student’s name on the bag in ink. Except for Epi-pens and prescription inhalers, all medicines (even non-prescription) must be turned in prior to leaving for away camp. If your child is a Type 1 diabetic, please consult with our lead camp Health Care Officer (HCO), Mrs. Amanda Zaharof. While at camp, medications are stored, secured, and distributed under the direction of the HCO from the medical station.
- Due to the logistics required, students are strongly encouraged to skip non-essential vitamins and supplements this week. This helps keep lines down at the medical station for students that take required medications.
- Students who use inhalers for asthma or Epi-pens for allergic reactions, remember to bring a spare. We will be outdoors, which can sometimes trigger asthma and allergies.

Transportation: Transportation to and from camp is provided by chartered Motor Coaches. Please pack as lightly as possible as there is only limited space on each coach and we are near capacity.

Luggage: The Band Director reserves the right to inspect the belongings of any student, or to direct a staff member, chaperone, and/or member of law enforcement to perform an inspection, at any time before or during a trip. Belongings include, but are not limited to, luggage, backpacks, instrument cases, food containers, etc.

Parents/guardians who feel it is necessary should examine their child’s belongings to ensure compliance with UCS and Stevenson Band policies before dropping them off at school. This policy also extends to the inspection of any hotel room, cabin, or other rented facility that is secured by either Utica Community Schools, Stevenson High School, and/or The Stevenson Band Boosters.

All belongings, including clothing, should be clearly labeled should they become separated from their owner. Whatever is brought to Michindoh must be carried by each student to and from the cabins. Paintball players need long pants (jeans preferred).

Call time on Saturday, August 17 for 8th, 9th, and 10th graders + Section Leaders & Drum Majors is at 7:00 AM. 11th and 12th graders may report at 7:30 AM or earlier.

- Step one: Enter SHS with everything you are taking to camp using Door #23 (between the band room and auditorium). All luggage / personal belongings will be dropped off in the main gym for inspection while the student is checked in.
- Step two: Proceed to the student check-in line (students must be present) in the main gym to ensure all required forms and paperwork have been completed, all of your medications have been secured, and to issue wristbands that must be worn to board the bus.
• **Note:** All paperwork must be completed for 100% of the band before we can leave for camp. Be patient while we ensure the safety of the students for the week.

• Step 3: After receiving your wristband, regather your belongings and exit SHS to load your luggage under the coach and board the bus. Use the restroom before leaving the building as you will not be allowed back inside.

• If you would like to **send a note (hand-written or printed)** to encourage your student while they are at camp, there will be a special **box/bag to drop it in at check-in**. Place the note inside an envelope, labeled with the student’s name and instrument (section). The notes will be given to the students during meal time. You may also drop them off during home camp.

**Spending money:** Most students will want spending money for items at camp. The Michindoh dining hall does not have soda fountains; students wishing to purchase pop may do so using vending machines in the visitor center. The camp’s waterfront area also has a small store that offers pre-packaged ice cream, candy, etc. In addition, there is a **$17** charge for anyone wishing to play paintball that will be collected upon our return home. The amount of cash that is brought to camp is discretionary. All student meals paid for during the trip.

**Band Camp Rules and Regulations**

• **ALL SCHOOL RULES APPLY AT CAMP.** This includes dress code.

• Absolutely no medicines, even over the counter and/or vitamins & supplements, in luggage or in cabins

• NO guests other than necessary parents are allowed at camp during the week. This includes former students.

• Please treat all parents, instructors, and camp staff in an appropriate and respectful manner.

• Students are not allowed to leave camp, unless being taken off site for medical care.

• Students MUST attend ALL meals (yes, you need to eat), ALL rehearsals and evening activities.

• Students are not allowed out of their cabins outside of the determined times, except to use the restroom. LADIES are not allowed in the MENS sleeping quarters / restrooms and vice versa.

• Students MUST NOT push bunks together (fire code) or place mattresses on the floor (due to sanitary/critter issues, etc).

• All students must remain for the duration of the scheduled evening activities. You may not return early to your cabin.

• Any student caught sneaking out at night or leaving the camp premises will be sent home at their own expense.

• Food/snacks are allowed, but MUST be stored in sealed containers (due to sanitary/critter issues, etc). Remember that there will be many snacks and treats provided during the day and cabin food should be kept to a minimum.

• Please maintain proper etiquette at all times.

• Students must be on time and participate in all rehearsals and activities.

• No large electronic equipment is allowed at camp. Small Digital/MP3 music players are allowed. NO PORTABLE DVD PLAYERS, TV’S, COMPUTERS, OR GAME SYSTEMS (except hand-held).

• Cabins must be cleaned before final checkout.

• No Febreeze / air freshener allowed. No spraying of body sprays as air fresheners due to students with fragrance sensitivities.

• No graffiti or decorations on camp structures. A charge will be made for removal/cleaning that is needed inside or outside of any camp structure to restore it to its original state.
Any student violating these rules will be dealt with while at camp. If the offense is severe, the student may be sent home and subject to disciplinary action by Stevenson High School, Utica Community Schools, or the Police Department.

**Early dismissal from camp / students not riding the bus home:** If you are picking a child up early from Michindoh, you must check in at the Welcome Center and your child will be released directly by Mike Austerman to you. Michigan camp regulations require that we have written permission from a parent or guardian for a student to be released from camp with anyone that is not listed on the Emergency Medical Treatment form. Contact Mr. Austerman at (248) 709-5795 to complete these arrangements, if necessary. There will be no exceptions.

**Visitors:** Students, staff, and chaperones attending Away Band Camp are focused on learning; as such friends/alumni and other unannounced visitors are not invited to attend. Parents/guardians that visit camp must provide advance notice to Mr. Austerman. We take security very seriously and want to provide a safe and controlled environment.

**Communication during the week:** Check Facebook throughout the week for pictures and commentary from camp. We attempt to communicate daily with pictures and videos, however we are often at the mercy of variable internet connectivity. All pictures/videos taken during marching band season are the property of Stevenson Band Boosters and we reserve the right to post them on our web site and/or on social media. You are welcome and encouraged to download and save them for your personal use. Due to the variability of camp, we do not have a specific time scheduled for a Facebook Live broadcast. If one does get planned, announcements will be made via Remind and on Facebook.

**Emergency Contact of Student while at Camp:** In the event of an emergency at home that makes it necessary to contact your student, we request that you contact Mr. Austerman first to ensure the student can be notified in a manner that ensures their privacy with regards to their classmates. Please withhold contacting your student regarding routine happenings at home that don’t require immediate action until they return home on the 22nd. However, sending a text with positive encouragement is always welcome!

**Return home:** We are anticipating arriving back at SHS at approximately 4pm on Thursday, August 22nd, subject to traffic conditions as we drive through Ann Arbor and Metro Detroit. Your student should call or text you when we get close to school. Once everything is unloaded, the students will be free to go home. Be sure to pick up all medication before leaving!

**Staff, Chaperones, and Stafferones:** All of the more than 40 adults accompanying your child/children to camp have participated in training to review and ensure understanding of the Band Camp Policy Manual, which is available for your review at [www.stevensonbands.org/marching-band/](http://www.stevensonbands.org/marching-band/) (look for “Band Policy Manual 2019”).

**Emergency contact numbers:** Michindoh (517) 523-3616; Mr. Austerman (248) 709-5795; Mrs. Zaharof (586) 601-5256; Mrs. Kies (810) 919-3637; Mr. Petras (586) 219-1632. In the very unlikely event you cannot reach one of the people on the above list who are at camp, Mr. and Mrs. Howell are our home contacts: Donna - (586) 246-5467, Anthony – (586) 246-5437.