

September 11, 2019

To: G.M.S. Band Students and Parents

Re: Canton Friendship Parade

The Canton Friendship Parade is this Saturday, September 14th. The parade begins at 10:00 a.m. and we are asked to be lined up by 9:30. I ask that the band students be at GMS no later than 8:00 a.m. so they have enough time to get into uniform and load the busses. I plan to leave GMS by 8:35.

The Canton parade is a competitive parade and there should be an awards ceremony following. After the parade finishes, there is usually time before the awards ceremony where I will allow the students to change back into street clothes and partake in some of the vendor foods at the fairgrounds. Please make sure they have **money for food**. After the ceremony, we will board the busses and return to GMS. I have discussed my rules and guidelines with Mr. Brown about what the students will and will not be allowed to do. I will also be telling them prior to that day. I expect the students to remain in groups of three or more. We will regroup at a designated location for attendance before loading the busses. **We need parents to help chaperone the students** while in the fairgrounds. If you are available, please let me know.

Just the same as I stated for the Marigold Parade, all students must ride the bus to Canton. Parents wishing to take their son/daughter home following the parade may do so after signing the attendance sheet. If you intend to do this, please let me know. Once again, students leaving with parents will be responsible for their own uniforms and instruments. The directors and/or band parents will not be responsible for their items. I hope to be returning to GMS around 1:00.

***We are wearing uniforms, which means uniformity is important! All band students must have their all BLACK crew socks and their SPEEDSTERS marching shoes for all parades. I will not allow black tennis shoes, nor will I allow any sort of sandals to be worn. I have told the students, "a band that looks good, sounds good!" Student will need to have purchased band gloves from me. A pair of gloves are \$2.50; sizes ranging from S – L. Once again, it is uniformity. A few students not wearing appropriate attire makes the entire band look sloppy! Enough said.....

If there are any band parents who would be interested in helping disperse and/or collect uniforms for any of our parades, I would greatly appreciate the help. Please let me know. I would also appreciate a few parents walking with the band on the parade routes to help with safety and dispensing water to students, if needed.

If I have forgotten anything or if you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call.....382-3456.

In Music,

Mr. Woods

GMS Director of Bands