



# Band Notes

## Marching Band 2021: Level Up!

This year was the year we'd been waiting for since the Farmington High School Marching Band was formed. This was the year we were able to compete with other bands from 6A schools. Our band started with 74 members in 2018, and just four short years later, we were up to 124 and ready to truly Level Up! It wasn't an easy season, as we had some real disappointments from time to time. We had some uniform problems, LED lights that kept breaking, and an extremely challenging show that was bringing us mixed reviews from the competition judges. But each of these challenges eventually became our strengths as we chose to Level Up! The parents pulled together and donated a ton of hours to fix the uniforms (huge shout out to Angela Roth and her helpers!) and get the LED lights installed and working (huge shout out to Bryan Hayes and all the parents that helped). Meanwhile, the staff made important changes to the show. The band embraced those changes and then went on to deliver an even better show. So what did all of that hard work get us in the end? Second place in 6A and state at Red Rocks, and third place at Bands of America!!! This was a huge accomplishment for a band that didn't even exist four years ago! We truly Leveled Up!

## Special Shout-Out to the Nixelles

This year we were privileged to have the Farmington High School Nixelles join us as we combined our efforts to perform a stunning field show. These 39 young ladies added just the right amount of sparkle and style as we performed a crowd-favorite field show. They performed with us at Davis Cup, Red Rocks, and BOA, and we are so grateful to them. Many thanks to the Nixelle staff, Marci Hartvigsen, Shalice Larsen, and Sue Bagley. Thanks for having fun with us!



## Farmington High School Band Program

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## Goodbyes and Special Announcement

We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to Tina Bruckman, as she recently retired from the marching arts. She started our color guard program four years ago when we were a brand new school. Best of luck in all of your future endeavors, Tina! We also want to give McKayla Wolf a great big shout out as she is moving on to other endeavors. McKayla has been with the Farmington High School Marching Band program from the very beginning, and we want to wish her the very best in all she does. We won't be the same without you ladies, but we promise to continue on with what you've taught us!

We want to welcome Karene Warby as our new color guard director! Karene just finished her first year with us as a band parent, and we are so excited to continue to work with her in this new capacity!!!

## Thank You Parent Volunteers!

The marching band could never function without the help of our parents! We have volunteers who serve on structured committees, others who sign up to help as needed, and many who have helped by donating supplies and food for the band. We appreciate every parent and every way in which they support the marching band. These are the best parents around!

## Extra Special Thanks to Our Committee Chairs!

**Band Camp Food:** Jana VanHorn and Megan Jackson\*

**Special Events:** Amanda Angst\*

**Competition Meals:** Jana VanHorn and Rose Mitchell

**Uniforms:** Rachael Clegg

**Band Dads (and Moms!)** Bryan Hayes

**Photography:** Lisa Gemperline\*

**Fundraising:** Meghan Parrish\*

\* Parents who have seniors and will be moving on. Thank you for your service!

**All State  
Band & Orchestra  
Congratulations to  
all of our students  
who made it into the  
all state bands and  
orchestras !**

**Lexi Stats**

**Melissa Jackson**

**Cole Parrish**

**McKay Hansen**

**Trevor Hayes**

**Jacob Horowitz**

**Spencer Bringhurst**

**Ayla Kazmar**

**Sam Silva**

**Kevin Thacker**

**Seth Walker**

**All State Band  
Performance**

Jan. 15, 2022

**All State Orchestra  
Performance**

Jan. 16, 2022

## Mango Minutes

After two back-to-back 5A state championships, I knew moving up to 6A was going to be difficult. We designed a killer show and had to literally LevelUp in all areas in order to be able to compete. When it was all said and done, I think it's safe to say we accomplished that goal and designed another crowd favorite show! There was never a dull moment each week as the staff and I tried to evaluate ways to improve. Down in St. George, it all ended with a region title, second place finish in 6A (and overall in the state), and a third place finish at the Bands of America Regional Finals (our highest placement ever at this event). We also scored first in prelims overall in Individual Music by the field judges for the second time in a row, and second in individual marching. I absolutely could not be more pleased.

I am so grateful for my wonderful staff, band parents, and of course the students for all their hard work. What a season! I will miss our seniors and I could not be more proud of everyone. A special thanks to Marci Hartvigsen and her staff and the Nixelles for joining us that weekend. It was so fun having them and it made such a difference.

I'd like personally thank Christina Bruckman and McKayla Wolf for their contributions to our program the last four years. As you may have heard, both will no longer be serving on our staff in the future. Mrs. Bruckman capped off a wonderful 13-year career in the marching arts with this fall season. Both will be missed, and we wish them all the best with their future endeavors.

Lastly, I hope you will look back on this marching season with fondness. If so, please share your enthusiasm and excitement with others. Our biggest competitive need continues to be numbers. We need the band to continue to grow, both in marching, and concert and jazz. Please let everyone around you know how much fun you are having and how excited you are for the future of this program. I am so proud of you all. Go Phoenix!

Mr. Mangelson "Mango"

## Sending Our Love to Mr. Williams

It was announced at our latest band concert that Mr. Williams will be taking a leave of absence for the next few months while he deals with some health issues. We just want to send him our happy thoughts, warmest wishes, and hopes for a speedy recovery. We'll miss you while you're gone and look forward to your return Mr. Williams!

## Student Quotes

### Memorable moments from the 2021 marching band season

#### Lexi E., Drumline, Junior

One funny memory from this season was when the drumline finally convinced Jake to carry Gerald on his head during a competition! Early in the season, he promised he'd wear him in St. George for a performance. Just before we left for warm up, Jake told Josh to go grab Gerald and that he would wear him on his head for this one performance. The battery was so pumped and we ended up having a phenomenal run. It was so fun to look up and see Gerald just poking up out of the crowd every once in a while and made us all laugh to see a very stern and serious looking Jake carrying this massive stuffed seal around the stadium!

#### Lena T., Clarinet, Junior

The first thing that comes to mind is when we were all really emotional before performing at BOA finals. Everyone was desperately trying not to cry (many were failing). I got hit with a very sudden wave of emotion and I turned to Zoe saying, "Oh no! I'm going to cry! Help me not cry!" Zoe turns to me, thinks for a second and says in the most matter of fact way ever, "You're ugly." It worked! It was such a funny moment that the comment ended up being her quote on the clarinet shirt!

#### T. Sean D., Front Ensemble, Senior

This season we had to be very flexible due to the weather. We often ended up inside doing music, especially in the weeks leading up to state. For a while, we weren't able to do full ensemble because of all the changes and tweaks. But each section was working hard to make those changes a reality. Eventually when the band came back together, it was magical. I remember doing a full run in the commons and feeling incredibly overjoyed by how freaking awesome we sounded as a group. It reminded me of why I joined band, and why I love this activity so much. We truly did level up, and it's something I'll never forget.

#### Megan G., Mellophone, Junior

One of the first things I remember looking back at this season was this one time during a band camp dinner. Me, Kevin, Trevor, Eric, and Ryan were sitting at one table and across the room was Harrison and a bunch of the other mellos. Eric, being the spontaneous guy he is, decided to chuck Great Scott (which was the mello's mascot) across the room only for it to land in Harrison's plate of pizza. Immediately after doing so, Harrison stood up, looked around, lowered his voice five octaves, and yelled "WHO THREW GREAT SCOTT IN THE PIZZA??!" in his loud booming voice. We all died of laughter because of how loud he yelled. You wouldn't expect that voice to come out of a short curly haired guy!

## Student Quotes cont.

### Sam M., Saxophone, Junior

This story successfully shows how immature and awesome the alto sax section was this year. Back at the beginning of the season, all section leaders look for ways to bring their sections close together, to get to know one another, and to open up to each other. And during this time, field commanders and drum majors try to make the marching band like one big friend group. This results in the first couple months being a chaos of unneeded sectionals and parties with the band.

I (not to brag or anything) already had a section that were close friends, and were already looking for excuses to hang out and do dumb stuff together. We decided that it would be a great idea to get together before one party planned by the drum majors at a nearby park to prepare some snacks, watch some DCI shows, and chill for a bit.

So about two hours before the party, we all show up at Asher's house (one of the altos) to prepare. I brought some almost lemonade, Oreos, and a box of raisins. When we got there, we watched a couple shows, then began preparing snacks.

You can tell by my selection of things to bring—Oreos (decent), a box of raisins (not so decent) and some “almost lemonade” (the organic non-GMO lemonade from Smith's that tastes almost like lemonade but not quite)—that the selection was 10/10 stellar, but it wasn't 11/10 yet, as we had some improving.

We started by taking one box of double stuffed Oreos and removing all of the crème. (Don't worry we washed our hands). We would pry apart the cookie, then use a knife to scrape the crème into a bowl, then put the Oreo outside in a pile. Once we were done, we put all the Oreo cookies back into the box. Our original plan was to just leave it at that, but then we realized that we had extra space now from losing all the crème, and we had a bowl full of crème. So naturally we filled up the space with the crème in a gross looking dip and dubbed it “Oreos and Taters” and called it good.

On the next box of Oreos, we opened the cookies and shoved a couple raisins in them and returned them to the box. We had to get rid of a couple cookies because so much extra space was being added, and it definitely didn't look like the Oreos were tampered with at all. Then we left one of the almost lemonade cartons full, then with the other we added the rest of the raisins to make it even more organic.

This entire time we were laughing like it was the funniest thing to ever happen on the planet, and truthfully in the moment it was. Obviously our snacks were an absolute hit at the party and we vowed to make Oreos and Taters something we do every year.

### Lexi S., Flute, Junior

This season was so great and I loved getting to know everyone! This season we had to Level Up to 6A from 5A, and I believe we definitely accomplished this goal. This year we got 2nd in state and 1st in region. It was such a great season!! Band is definitely a place for all kinds of kids, and I love how everyone can feel accepted. Personally, it has taught me so many good values, and I am very grateful for everyone who helps make it possible! It is a great atmosphere to be in and I cannot wait to see what we do next year!

## Fundraising

We can't thank our students and parents enough for all their hard work with fundraising efforts. We had a very successful online "Tag-a-Lu-Lu Day" in August. We also had many students who were able to find sponsors who are now helping support our program. We could never do this without everyone's help. We were able to earn enough money to pay off our new trailers, and are now looking forward to the day when we have the funds to build a large storage shed to house all of our marching band equipment.

## Sponsors

Many thanks to all of our sponsors. We would highly encourage all band families to consider giving our sponsors their business and letting your friends and neighbors know that these businesses support our band program at Farmington High School.

