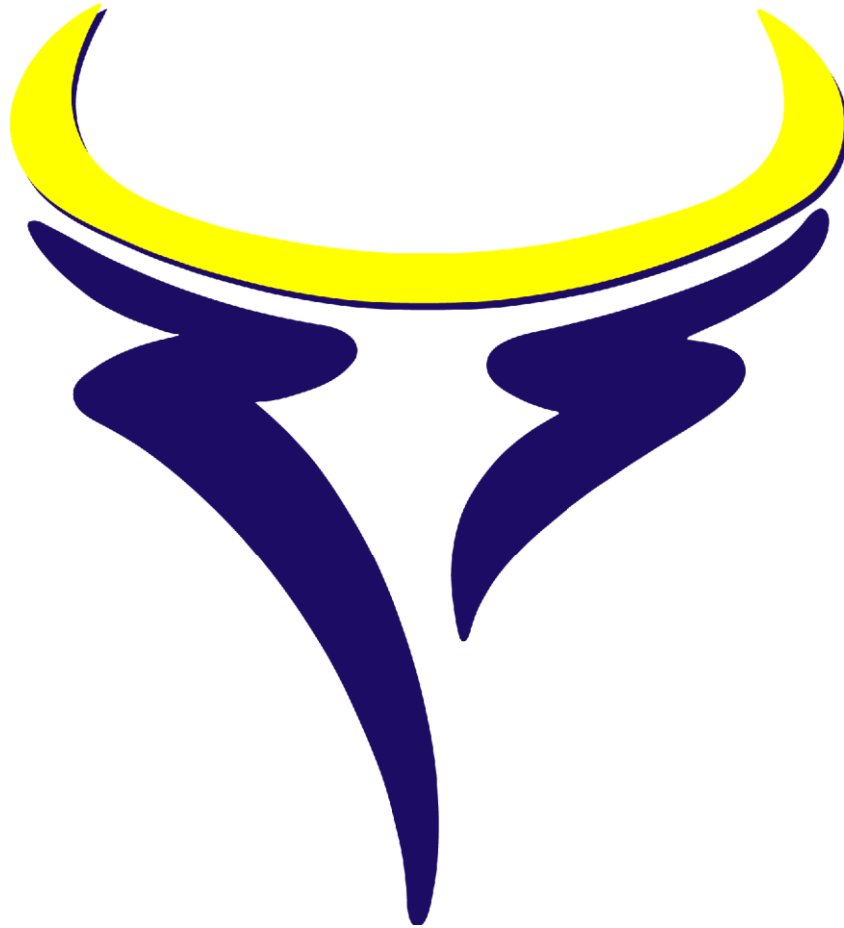


# El Toro High School



## 2009 - 2010 Instrumental Music and Color Guard Handbook

El Toro High School  
25255 Toledo Way  
Lake Forest, CA 92630

Instrumental Music & Color Guard Office  
(949) 586 - 6333 x 6162#

Or email:  
[fritzd@svusd.org](mailto:fritzd@svusd.org)

## *Introduction*

Welcome to the El Toro High School Instrumental Music and Color Guard Programs!

Over the past several years, the instrumental music program at El Toro has been through many changes and transitions. Our goal for the 2009 – 2010 school year is to build a lasting foundation of excellence that will serve this program and these students for years to come.

The following handbook will provide students and parents with information and guidelines that they will need to have a positive and successful experience in the instrumental music and color guard programs at El Toro High School. Parents and students should review this handbook together so you are both aware of the goals expectations, and commitments of these programs.

If you have any questions please contact us at the email addresses listed below.

Sincerely,

Dan Fritz  
Director of Instrumental Music  
949-586-6333x6162  
[fritzd@svusd.org](mailto:fritzd@svusd.org)

Christy Alesi  
Director of Orchestra  
949-586-6333x6162  
[violacrnie@cox.net](mailto:violacrnie@cox.net)

Jim Goodrich  
Color Guard Coach  
949-586-6333x6162  
[jgoodrich@earthlink.net](mailto:jgoodrich@earthlink.net)

## *Our Goals*

- ❖ To further develop an appreciation of music and/or movement as well as an understanding of music and/or movement fundamentals by becoming skilled in performing as both an individual and as a group.
- ❖ To provide a vehicle for the further development of creativity, self-expression, leadership, and self-confidence.
- ❖ To further develop self-discipline, organizational skills, time management, and responsibility.

## *Responsibilities of a Member*

It is the pride of a job well done and the accomplishments achieved and the fun we have that make it worthwhile. It is possible, by organizing your schedule in a reasonable manner, to have a highly successful music or color guard career and still maintain high scholastic standing. Instrumental music and color guard alumni are currently attending UCI, Stanford, Westmont, San Diego State, UCLA, University of Michigan, Dartmouth, USC and many other prestigious universities across the United States and Canada. The success of the organization will lead to the success of the individual and vice versa.

As members, we have earned various rights and titles through effective performances and musical contributions to the community. We must understand that these rights and privileges with several areas of responsibility.

**Responsibility to ourselves:** We owe ourselves the benefit of proper equipment and proper lessons. Whenever possible, you should have the best possible quality instrument you can afford and take private lessons. YOU have the primary responsibility for learning and contributing your talent to the group. A list of recommend instructors can be obtained from the director or SVUSD web site.

**Responsibility to each other:** Getting along with each other in our complex society is indeed a difficult task all by itself. You have the obligation and responsibility to respect the rights of others. Excessive talking, spreading rumors, bad manners, and even “venting” at practice or during class can cause unnecessary issues for both yourself and others. Both in and out of uniform or concert attire – treat others as you wish to be treated.

**Responsibility for promptness and commitment to the program:** These are two essential facts vital to the success of the program. Many times we are leaving the area to perform. YOU MUST arrange your schedule so you are able to honor your commitment to the performing groups. Early is on time – On time is late – Late is unacceptable.

**Financial Responsibility:** We must be responsible for the costs of the uniforms and equipment, as well as transportation and maintenance of equipment. While we receive a small amount of financial support from school funds (\$500 to be split between 6 classes), it is not nearly enough to support the program to the extent the community and the members themselves deem necessary. *We have a very active booster organization. We invite parents to join this group and to help with its activities.* The students are responsible for several fundraising events each year. It is reasonable to expect each member to participate equally in these events or to donate the amount of money (estimated cost per student) equal to the profit that would be generated had he or she participated.

**Responsibility for Attendance:** *Attendance at regularly scheduled **rehearsals and performances is required for membership in the program.*** Absences are permitted in the event only in the event of personal illness or death in the family. Any other potential absence must be submitted for approval at least two weeks in advance. Failure to appear at a scheduled practice or performance without permission will result in a reduction of grade for that grading period. At the director’s discretion, excessive absences at rehearsals may also result in not participating at the next performance. It is impossible to “make-up” a performance, and it is not fair that the other members carry an extra burden because someone else’s inconsideration or lack of responsibility

In case of emergency or sudden illness before an after school rehearsal or performance, please e-mail Mr. Fritz [fritzd@svusd.org](mailto:fritzd@svusd.org) or call the instrumental music and color guard office (949) 586 – 6333 x 6162.

## *Music Program's Sources of Income*

The income of the ETHS Instrumental Music and Pageantry Boosters supports the activities that are essential to a successful music program. Funds are used for: Group Learning Experiences (field show tournaments, festival, winter guard competitions and other field trips), Coaches (for each instrument as well as color guard), Equipment, Music, and many other expenses associated with funding a large and successful music program. In order to provide your child with the top quality education they deserve the boosters must fund the entire \$150,000 - \$200,000 budget that a high school music program requires in order to provide your child with the items previously listed. **SVUSD PROVIDES NO FUNDING FOR THESE ITEMS!** In order to have adequate and consistent funds available to provide your child with a balance music or color guard education please follow the contribution schedule outlined in the green packet.

### **Instrumental Music and Pageantry Booster Student Accounts:**

Every month you will be e-mailed a statement of your contributions to and fundraising for the ETHS Instrumental Music and Pageantry Boosters. This statement reflects the financial commitment that you and your child have made to this program. Your statement will also reflect any purchases you have made from the boosters for your child like concert attire or color guard costume.

## *School Instruments*

The school helps with the larger more expensive instruments. Tubas and percussion instruments are the most common. We do own a few String Basses, Cellos, Baritones, French Horns, Trombones, Saxophones, Oboes, and Bassoons. We often run out of school instruments in many sections and students may have to share. While this is not ideal, finances prevent us from providing everyone with an instrument. School instruments are assigned to students by seniority. If you are able to purchase or rent your child's instrument, it will help take a great strain off the program.

## *Concert Attire and Field Uniforms*

### Orchestra, Symphonic Band, and Wind Ensemble:

- Boys: Black tuxedos pants and jacket, white tuxedo shirt, black bow tie (ordered from Friar Tux approx. \$150.00). Boys will also need to wear black dress socks and black dress shoes with their tuxedo.
- Girls: Black uniform concert dress (ordered through ETHSIMPB approx. \$70.00). Girls will also need to wear black dress shoes with their concert dress (no flip flops).

### Marching Band:

- All: Black marching band pants and Blue marching jacket (provided by school). Black marching shoes (approx. \$35.00). Black Socks crew or knee high length (no ankle socks)

## *Physical and Medical Forms (For Band and Color Guard ONLY)*

Physical Form: Due to the physical nature of marching band and color guard it is **REQUIRED** that all students participating in these activities have a physical each school year in order to prevent injuries or even death due to unknown medical conditions. This physical must be completed and submitted before the student is allowed to participate in ANY band or color guard camps, practices, or events.

Medical Form: Each form must be completed, signed, and submitted either on or before the first day of band or color guard camp. Students will not be allowed to participate in any camps, practices, or events until these forms have been properly completed and signed. The Saddleback Valley Unified School District provides **NO** medical insurance. Should your child be hurt or become ill while at rehearsal or an event and require medical attention you or your insurance will be used to cover these costs. You are required to immediately notify the Director **in writing** of ANY changes to your child's medical coverage and/or medical conditions over the course of the school year. This is to ensure your wishes are followed in regards to your child's physical health, safety, and well-being.

### *Class/Rehearsal Rules*

1. Bring **your** instrument/equipment, music, drill, pencil, extra supplies and a good attitude to each rehearsal (RBR students should also bring their dot book and drill).
2. Keep your music and drill in a folder with your name on it. It is your responsibility to replace your music/drill/dot book should you lose/damage it.
3. Demonstrate encouraging, courteous and cooperative behavior at all times.
4. No eating/drinking/chewing gum in any rehearsal space or storage space. Water is OK.
5. Keep your instrument/equipment in good working order - preventative maintenance is key. Cleaning and repairing instruments is not a productive use of rehearsal time.
6. Only play or touch the instruments/equipment that is yours.
7. Only enter the locker assigned to you.
8. Take your instrument/equipment home to practice, everyday. This is your homework. You will not improve without regular practice outside of class.
9. The school and/or district are not responsible for damage or theft to privately owned instruments/equipment.
10. Make sure your name is somewhere on or inside your case/equipment.
11. Many thousands of dollars of instruments and equipment are stored in the in storage rooms. For the safety and security of this equipment, only students enrolled in that class may enter their storage room. Have your friends wait outside while you get your stuff.
12. Please use appropriate language at all times. How you speak is a reflection upon the El Toro High School Instrumental Music and Color Guard Programs.
13. Only talk if you have been given permission to do so. This helps us to have more productive and efficient rehearsals which equal better performances.
14. Do not help yourself to music in a filing cabinet / on a sorting table. Many hours have been spent organizing music. Don't create extra work for us.
15. Students must maintain at least a 2.0 GPA to participate in any performing ensembles.

### *Storage Rooms Rules*

- ❖ Locker assignments will be based on the size and shape of your instrument. To change your assigned locker you must have permission from Mr. Fritz.
- ❖ Storage Rooms are for instruments/equipment, accessories, dot books/drill, and music ONLY. Backpacks, textbooks, notebooks for other classes, food, or any other non music related items should not be stored in any storage room when you are not in rehearsal.
- ❖ Please DO NOT KEEP P.E. clothes in your locker.
- ❖ Random locker checks will be done throughout the school year and there will be consequences for those students whose chose not to observe these rules.

## *Course Descriptions*

**0 Period Drumline:** This is the Ensemble Class for students who participate in the drumline portion of marching band. In the fall they will work on marching band music in class as well as music for special performances. Select members of this ensemble may be asked to perform with Symphonic Band or Wind Ensemble throughout the school year. In the spring the goal of this class is to form into a competitive indoor drumline.

**1 Period Marching Band/Symphonic Band:** This class will be listed as marching band on schedules of sophomores, juniors and seniors who are participating in marching band. Freshman will have this course listed as symphonic band on their class schedules, but they will also need to enroll in 3<sup>rd</sup> Period Freshman Marching Band. This course will also be listed as Symphonic Band on the class schedules of any upperclassmen who have been granted a “marching band exemption”. During the school day students will have a concert band class similar to that of intermediate school; students will be working on instrument technique, music theory, and learning variety musical style. Symphonic Band students will also be required to perform at the Winter, Pre-Festival, and End of the Year Concerts, as well as, at least one festival between March and April. Those in marching band will be additionally required to attend all marching band rehearsals and performances during the Fall. Second Semester this course will be listed as Symphonic Band on all student schedules.

**2 Period Marching Band/Wind Ensemble:** BY AUDITION ONLY, Course is for students who have demonstrated that they are ready for more advanced musical literature and have shown that they have the maturity to be responsible for learning this literature. Like Symphonic Band for sophomores, juniors and seniors this class will be listed as marching band on their first semester schedule. Freshman will have this course listed as wind ensemble, but they will also need to enroll in 3<sup>rd</sup> Period Freshman Marching Band. This course will be listed as Wind Ensemble on the class schedules of any upperclassmen who have been granted a “marching band exemption”. During the school day students will be working on the advanced concepts of concert band music literature, instrument technique music theory, and furthering their knowledge of musical styles. Wind Ensemble students will be required to participate in the Winter, Pre-Festival, and End of the Year Concerts as well as several festivals between March and April. Those in marching band will be additionally required to attend all marching band rehearsals and performances during the Fall. Second Semester this course will be listed as Wind Ensemble on all student schedules.

**3 Period Color Guard 1<sup>st</sup> Semester:** Students will be part of the Royal Blue Regiment practicing and performing with the marching band. During this semester students learn the basic skill required to be successful as a color guard team. This includes learning how to use color guard equipment and dance techniques as well as the skill of presenting a quality performance. **2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Color Guard:** BY AUDITION ONLY, students will be part to ETHS Winter Guard Team. Winter Guard is a continuation of learning skills building upon the knowledge that they have acquired in the previous semester as well as performing with the Winter Guard Team in indoor competitions throughout Southern California. The Winter Guard Team will also have to opportunity for an overnight trip to Winter Guard International Regional’s Competition.

**3 Period Freshman Marching Band 1<sup>st</sup> SEMESTER ONLY:** This class is for Freshman Marching Band Members only. In this course students will be working on marching and instrument technique for marching band as well as increasing their knowledge of music theory and drill charts. Also students in the class will have the additional afterschool rehearsal and performance requirements of marching band. Second Semester these students will move to Physical Education or the Winter/Spring Athletic of their choice.

**4 Period Jazz Band:** Students in this audition only ensemble will learn a variety of jazz styles and techniques throughout the school year. Students will also be participating in the Winter, Pre – Festival and June concerts as well as performing at several school and community events. In addition to this students will perform at several jazz festivals throughout Southern California.

**5 Period Orchestra:** Students will be working on instrument technique, music theory, and a variety of string orchestral music. During this semester the orchestra will have the opportunity to audition as an ensemble for a Disneyland performance, if accepted this will take place on a school day of Disney's choosing. Orchestra will also be performing at both the Fall (October), Winter (December), Pre-Festival (March) and End of the Year (June) Concerts. In March and April students will be traveling to music festivals to receive valuable judge's feedback on our progression in the area String Orchestra performance. In addition to performing at music festivals students will also be performing at several school and community events during the school year.

### *High School Grading Procedures*

A student's grade starts with the consideration that they each capable of maintaining an, "A," when they walk through the door at the beginning of the school year. As music and color guard grades are subjective to the student's current abilities as well as their progression of skills as the school year continues, each child's grade is primary based on his or her own potential and their effort to become the best musician or color guard member that they can be.

Participation -- (approximately 50%)

On time to class daily, ready to participate 2 minutes after the tardy bell rings, with all necessary equipment and materials. Appropriate participation in rehearsal.

Progression of Skills (Tests & Quizzes) -- (approximately 20%)

Tests and quizzes may be written or playing/performing tests. Students will be tested on information covered in class. Instrumental Music Examples: scales, exercises, passages or music, written work (music theory). Color Guard Examples: various dance movements and equipment work skills. Students that receive "C" or lower on an exams or tests will have one week to schedule there make-up exam with the director or color guard coach.

Written Assignments -- (approximately 10%)

This may include written theory assignments or more frequently returning a bottom section signature on time from a newsletter or a letter home. It is extremely important that we communicate through these letters, so credit is **always** given for return sheets.

Performance and Rehearsal-- (20% for each performance and rehearsal)

All performances are required.

2009 – 2010  
*Practice Schedules*

**Marching Band:**

Mondays (9/14 – 11/16) 5pm – 9pm @ THHS

Tuesdays (9/15 – 11/17) 3pm – 6pm @ ETHS

Thursdays (9/10 – 11/19) 3pm – 6pm @ ETHS

Saturdays (9/12, 9/19, and 9/26) 9am – 4pm @ ETHS

**Color Guard:**

Mondays (9/14 – 11/17) 5pm – 9pm @ THHS

Mondays (12/1 – 4/20) 5pm – 9pm @ ETHS

Tuesdays (12/2 – 4/21) 3pm – 6pm @ ETHS

Thursdays (12/4 – 4/21) 3pm – 6pm @ ETHS

Saturdays (9/12, 9/19, 9/26 – others TBA) 9am – 4pm @ ETHS

**Wind Ensemble** – may have evening rehearsals as concerts and festivals approach – dates and times TBA

**Symphonic Band** – may have evening rehearsals as concerts and festivals approach – dates and times TBA

**Orchestra** – will have lunch rehearsals as concerts and festivals approach – dates TBA

2009/2010 Performance and Events Calendar

Events maybe added or subtracted based on the directors' or coaches' discretion. Please watch for regular e-mails and letters home with updates on these events as they approach.

**June**

Mon. - Tues 6/29 – 6/30 June/July Band & Color Guard Camp 4pm – 8pm

**July**

Tues – Friday 7/1 – 7/3 June/July Band & Color Guard Camp 4pm – 8pm

Saturday 7/4 Lake Forest 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade RBR – Call Time 8AM

**August**

Mon – Fri 8/10 – 8/14 Orchestra Camp 9am – Noon

Mon – Fri 8/17 – 8/21 Orchestra Camp 9am – Noon

Friday 8/21 Orchestra Parent Performance and Potluck – 7pm

Mon – Fri 8/24 – 8/28 Band & Color Guard August Camp 1pm – 8pm

Mon – Fri 8/31 Band & Color Guard August Camp 8am – 5pm

**September**

Tues. – Fri 9/1 - 9/4 Band & Color Guard August Camp 8am – 5pm

Friday 9/4 Band & Color Guard Parent Preview and Potluck - time 7pm

Thursday 9/10 Home Football Game RBR – Call Time 5pm @ ETHS

Friday 9/18 Home Football Game RBR – Call Time 5pm @ ETHS

**October**

Saturday 10/3 1<sup>st</sup> Field Show Tournament RBR – Times 8am – 11pm

Saturday 10/10 2<sup>nd</sup> Field Show Tournament RBR – Times 8am – 11pm

Friday 10/16 Home Football Game RBR – Call Time 5pm @ ETHS

Saturday 10/17 3<sup>rd</sup> Field Show Tournament RBR – Times 8am – 11pm

Thursday 10/22 Orchestra Fall Concert – Call Time 6:30pm, Concert Begins at 7pm

Friday 10/23 Home Football Game RBR – Call Time 5pm @ ETHS (homecoming game)

Friday 10/30 Home Football Game RBR – Call Time 5pm @ ETHS (Senior & Serrano Night)

Saturday 10/31 4<sup>th</sup> Field Show Tournament RBR – Times 6am – 8pm

**November**

Saturday 11/7 5<sup>th</sup> Field Show Tournament RBR – Times 8am – 11pm

Saturday 11/14 6<sup>th</sup> Field Show Tournament RBR – Times 8am – 11pm

Saturday 11/21 LAST Field Show Tournament – Times 8am – 11pm

**December**

Tuesday 12/8 Winter Concert – concert begins at 7pm

Thursday 12/10 Winter Concert – concert begins at 7pm

**January**

TBA TBA Orchestra and Marching Band Disneyland Performances (TBA)

**March**

Tuesday 3/2 Pre – Festival Concert – concert begins at 7pm

Thursday 3/4 Pre – Festival Concert – concert begins at 7pm

**May**

Sunday TBA Prelude in the Park All Ensembles

**June**

Tuesday 6/8 June Concert – concert begins at 7pm

Thursday 6/10 June Concert – concert begins at 7pm

Saturday 6/19 Baccalaureate – Orchestra Performs

Wednesday 6/23 Graduation - 2010 – 2011 Wind Ensemble Performs

*Information Especially for Parents*

Parent Guidelines

1. Student attendance is critical!
2. Students should practice as often as possible. Have your child play/perform for you occasionally.
3. Become involved with your child's instrumental music or color guard activities. Your presence at our events means a lot to your child and the other students in the program. Volunteering is a great way to get involved. Extra help is always needed.
4. Make positive and encouraging comments. Our (adults') attitudes reflect on our students, which in turn affects their attitude.
5. Encourage good sportsmanship towards each other and to our competitors at all times.

Parents should encourage their child to achieve excellence in whatever they do. In the instrumental music and color guard programs, practice and attendance at both rehearsals and performances in mandatory and will require your support.

Competitions and Festivals: Parents should also be aware that most of the field show tournaments, color guard competitions, and festivals we attend do charge for spectator tickets. These tickets can range from \$5 to \$15 per person depending on the venue. The prices of these tickets are set by the schools hosting the event and the circuit sponsoring them. The Saddleback Valley Unified School District, El Toro High School, the Instrumental Music and Pageantry Boosters, and the Director have no control over these prices so please be prepared to purchase your ticket at the gate.

*Communication  
How Parents Stay Informed*

The director and the boosters have set up the following procedures for communicating information to all members:

**E-Mail Blasts** – These mass e-mails are sent by the way of the Instrumental Music and Pageantry Boosters, please be sure to set your e-mail box to accept them or check your Spam box to make sure you don't miss any. This is the fastest, most efficient, and most cost effective way for the director and the boosters to communicate important information about up coming events, so please take the time to read each one.

[www.ethsband.org](http://www.ethsband.org) – Despite what the name implies this web site is regularly updated with information pertaining to ALL aspects of the program (Orchestra, Color Guard, and Bands). Please check this web site regular updates and new information.

[www.svusd.org/fritzd](http://www.svusd.org/fritzd) - This is Mr. Fritz's SVUSD teacher webpage it contains information pertaining to incoming, marching band, symphonic band, wind ensemble, drumline and orchestra students and their families.

**General Booster Meetings** – These are the Instrumental Music and Pageantry Boosters General Meetings which are held monthly in the El Toro High School Multipurpose Room. In addition to conducting the business of the organization, a large segment of the meeting is devoted to providing information on various event and activities. Attendance at the general meetings is encouraged. Meetings are normally held on the last Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm.

**Instrumental Music and Color Guard Students** - Your child is given detailed performance schedules, permission slips, and other information by the directors and coaches. Parents should ask their child to see any fliers that are sent home.

THE END!

You have made it through the El Toro High School Instrumental Music and Color Guard Handbook!

Please take a moment to review this list, and make sure you have completed the following:

Tonight:

\_\_\_\_\_ I have placed all my rehearsal and performance dates on the family master Calendar.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am returning a Parent Volunteer Sheet

\_\_\_\_\_ I am returning a Student Information Sheet

On my child's first day of Band, Color Guard, or Orchestra Camp I am submitting:

\_\_\_\_\_ I am returning a Contribution Acknowledgement Form

\_\_\_\_\_ A check for my 1<sup>st</sup> Contribution for my child's program

Marching Band and Color Guard ONLY

\_\_\_\_\_ My Child's Physical Form Completed by a Physician

\_\_\_\_\_ My Child's Medical Form Completed (including insurance information) and Signed.

We have read the read the 2009 – 2010 El Toro High School Instrumental Music and Color Guard Handbook, and understand our commitment to the El Toro High School Instrumental Music and Color Guard Program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (please print)

**Please return this page on your child's first day of camp. If your child is not attending camp please return it on the first day of school.**

Thank you!

Mr. Fritz, Ms. Alesi, and Mr. Goodrich