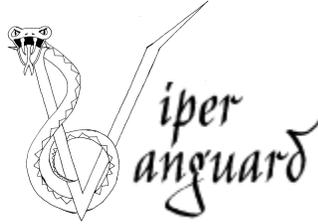


Viper
Vanguard
Band Handbook
2020-2021



Students and Parents of Verrado High School's **Viper Vanguard**,

Welcome to band! We are the Viper Vanguard. Vanguard means “the forefront in any activity or the leaders of any intellectual or political movement.” These students will be the leaders of this school, and this activity.

We will have an exciting, new show for this year that we know you will like!

This handbook explains much about the year including expectations and grading policies. **Please take time to read through the contents in detail.** At the end of this handbook, both students and parents will have a Google Form to fill out on our website showing that you understand and agree to the policies. **If your student does not have this Form turned in by the first activity – your student will not be participating, and it will be an unexcused absence from a performance.**

SIGN UP FOR “BAND” APP!!!

Please download the app, sign up with your REAL first and last name, and request to join “Viper Vanguard.” If you do not use your first AND last name, I will not approve your membership.

Facebook - “Viper Vanguard” and “Vanguard Involved Parent Support Team”

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at the information below; I can assure you I will help with anything I can.

Musically Yours,

Tracy N. Meldrum
Director of Bands
Verrado High School
623-932-7400 ext. 4128
TMeldrum@aguafria.org

Grading and Attendance Policy

We will be using Standards Based Grading this year. This is a 4 point scale. 4 being “Mastery” and 1 being “Underperforming.” I will be coming out with more details shortly. Students’ total grade is comprised of 40% professionalism standards - which means actively attending and participating in all rehearsals, 40% performance completion and performance accuracy standards, and 20% final.

The points are broken down as follows:

Attendance: 3 UNexcused absences will result in an incomplete in professionalism standards.

- *All absences – excused or non – must be in writing and given to Mrs. Meldrum ASAP so she can plan. If there is an emergency, please give the absence in writing to Mrs. Meldrum the day of return. If no note is given, the absence will be noted as unexcused and will be reflected in the student’s grade accordingly. All notes must be clearly printed and must include: reason for the absence; student name; parent name; respective signatures; and a phone number in case Mrs. Meldrum needs to reach you.*
- **Tardies (definition: not physically, mentally, or otherwise prepared for rehearsal at the specified start time) – unexcused** – students will receive a “1” for being tardy for rehearsal

Verrado High School Tardy Policy & Procedures

Per district policy: A student shall be considered TARDY if they are not inside the classroom area (in the Door, in the classroom space, etc) when the tardy bell stops ringing. Students arriving on campus after the tardy bell rings must report to the attendance office before going to class.

Late arrival to school may also be verified if a parent calls in, provides a note, or accompanies the students to the Attendance Desk. These VERIFIED tardies will be limited to FIVE per semester. All others will be considered unverified.

Verrado High School tardy consequences for an UNVERIFIED Tardy:

- 1st offense-verbal warning from the teacher/staff member; tardy is logged in Synergy
- 2nd offense and Beyond-detention and call home; tardy is logged in Synergy
- VHS Administration will meet with students to discuss additional consequences if the student's behavior is not corrected
- **Absences – unexcused:** *Unexcused absences include dinner with the family, job, babysitting, anything foreseen that could have been changed or scheduled around the calendar since they come out in May. This also coincides with the school attendance policy of what is excused and unexcused.*
 - Absence from any rehearsal will result in a 0 for that rehearsal or performance participation points.
 - Also, if the student does not catch up on any missed material *before* the next performance, the student will not participate in the performance resulting in another absence deduction.

- **Absences – excused:** *Excused absences include family emergencies such as injury or unforeseen tragic events. Sometimes doctor's appointments are excused in which case a doctor's note needs to be provided. Routine check-ups should be made outside of rehearsal time.*

All absences will be viewed on a case-by-case basis. Fair does not mean everyone receives the same outcome, but receives what they deserve. If I am anything, I am definitely a fair teacher. As long as this activity is not the bottom of the priority list, we should be okay.

- For unexcused absences there are make-up assignments if you choose to do them.
- **For a performance missed** – you must watch 10 reputable drum corps performances. You must list all of the corps names and their respective show titles. You must compare and contrast each corps analytically and write about what you liked and disliked about each. You need to write how you think the corps got to where they are. What are some rehearsal strategies you think they use? Why do you think it is important for you to be here for rehearsals and performances? This must be written using proper grammar and spelling. This paper must also be typed in Times New Roman 12pt, double spaced, and **at least** 5 pages in length.
- **For a rehearsal missed** - similar assignment, just shorter. You must write on 3 reputable drum corps performances and list all of the corps names and their respective show titles. Write what you liked and disliked about each. You need to write if you think many of them miss rehearsals and/or performances and why. Why do you think it is important for you to be here for rehearsals and performances – explain each in detail. This must be written using proper grammar and spelling. This paper must also be typed in Times New Roman 12pt, double spaced, and at least 2 pages in length. You must also give a brief explanation to the band on why it is important to be in attendance in both rehearsals and performances.

It is under the director's discretion if an absence or tardy will negatively impact an upcoming performance. Even an excused absence from one key rehearsal may result in an unsafe performing experience for the ensemble. Because of this, the director reserves the right to pull any student from a performance because of attendance issues. If pulled from a performance, the student is still expected to attend the event with the band and assist in any way possible.

This class is a team effort; we rely on one another immensely. Please understand that one absence affects the ENTIRE group. Vets can attest to that!

-Note – Any school sponsored activity will qualify as an excused absence as long as the student is communicative with the coach/teacher and director. It is asked that all students involved notify the director **as far in advance as possible** prior to the absence. If involved in a school sponsored activity other than band, it is the students' responsibility to communicate with the director and other activity coach/sponsor so a schedule can be appropriately worked out.

We are all making sacrifices to be here. But the sacrifices are worth the return! We will be so much better for it! I know it is a big commitment, but it doesn't last too long. You or your child has only four years to participate in this activity. And out of those four years, it only lasts a couple of months from each year. In the grand scheme of things, it is not that much time. My mom always told me, "Anyone can do anything for a few months." So enjoy it while it's here!! High school band, for most participants is the best high school experience, or results in their favorite high school experience. And no matter what, it is always something participants talk and reminisce about for the rest of their lives. It is well worth your while.

Playing Tests:

Please practice accordingly! I give tests for the good of the ensemble. I just want to make sure you are practicing. Please do your part. Every student comes into band at a different level of musicianship. It is up to the director and student to assess their level and attempt to improve over the semester. **Practicing** is an obvious way to do that. **Students should be prepared to practice a minimum of 3 and 1/2 hours per week outside of normal rehearsal time.** (This breaks down easily to a minimum 30 minutes a day, or 1 hour every other day). If you can't even do that – **do something!!** If we want to be a **SUPERIOR** ensemble, we need to have good practicing habits and **CANNOT FAKE OUR WAY THROUGH ANYTHING!**

Full participation:

- Students are expected to make an effort in and out of rehearsals. While in rehearsals, students are expected to attempt all activities and to not impede the progress of others. While out of rehearsal, students are expected to properly prepare for the next rehearsal by practicing, maintaining instruments, and doing necessary paper work. Students are expected to attend all rehearsals with:
 1. **All Music, Flip Folder, Lyre, and Dot Book, and dot-marking “thing”**
 2. **Instrument in good working order**
 3. **Pencil (not pen)**
 4. **Marching Drill**
 5. **Sneakers** (marching only--flip flops and sandals are not acceptable – if proper shoes are not worn, student will not participate which hurts all of us.)
 6. **Appropriate clothing** (marching only T-Shirts, shorts, sweat shirts, etc. Students should follow school dress code. We are outside most of the time; nice dresses and formal clothing are not recommended. Time will be given at end of rehearsal to change if we are outside. I will give notice on which days those will be).
 7. **Water - in the band water bottle**
 8. Sunscreen (if applicable)
 9. **Tuner (Winds only)** We truly need to be very conscious of our intonation, it will help immensely if we all have our own tuning device.
 10. **Metronome!!!!** Everyone needs one, and now that we are using one almost every day in class – you will know how to use it!
- **Part of full participation is *making a full effort*. “Senioritis” or similar actions will not be tolerated. This is an optional activity, if you so choose to be here, you must make full effort. If this is not something you can commit to, please don’t. It will be to the director’s discretion if the lack of effort is negatively affecting the ensemble and may result in dismissal from the program.**

Report Card Grading:

The Viper Vanguard Student will receive a grade of an **A** if:
--He/She has a point average of 90-100%.
--He/She attends all performances.

The Viper Vanguard Student will receive a grade of an **B** if:

--He/She has a point average of 80-89%.
--He/She attends all performances.

The Viper Vanguard Student will receive a grade of an **C** if:
--He/She has a point average of 70-79%.
--He/She attends all performances.

The Viper Vanguard Student will receive a grade of an **D** if:
--He/She has a point average of 60-69%.
--He/She attends all performances.

The Viper Vanguard Student will receive a grade of an **F** if:
--He/She has a point average of 0-59%.
--He/She fails to attend all performances and is unexcused.

SECTION LEADER EXPECTATIONS:

- Section leaders will have all music memorized before members of the section
- Section leaders will act accordingly in stands
- Section leaders will take responsibility for their sections
- Section leaders will do routine flip folder checks and make sure section members have music
- Section leaders will hold routine music checks
- Section leaders will have tuners/metronomes
- Section leaders will help the director in any way possible
- Section leaders will help keep the field quiet for field rehearsals – since all rehearsals are silent
- Section leaders may make people in their section run a lap, but they must run it with them.
- Section leaders will do routine dot book checks
- Section leaders will have a completed, correct dot book
- Section leaders are held to all expectations as other members, but will have more strict consequences if not met.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media is a huge part of our world now. Students must act appropriately on these sites. My expectation for this group is we will always treat each other respectfully in and out of the classroom. There will be no posting of others in this ensemble in a negative way on any social media format. This includes apps such as Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram, any chat room, or among many other formats that are available. **We need to be a team. We cannot function as a team if we are knocking each other down.** If I find out about any type of negative posting, including racial remarks, there will be **ONE** warning before the student is asked to no longer participate in the ensemble for the season. I do not and will not take this lightly. We need to

build each other up. *So by all means, post all kinds of positive things about one another, and we will do great things this season!!!*

ELECTRONIC DEVICES PROCEDURE:

- Do not use cell phones for any reason on the field. Not for dots, not for tuning, not for anything on the field.

STAND ETIQUETTE:

All section leaders will sit on the aisle end of their section's row. When a tune is announced, section leaders will pass it back to other section leaders, and section leaders will tell their sections.

- Absolutely no swearing
- Absolutely no sitting with other sections
- Absolutely no eating – MAKE SURE TO EAT BEFORE THE GAME!!!!
- Absolutely no drinking anything other than water
- No standing when we are not playing
- All pep tunes will be organized in your flip folder
- All uniforms will be completely in tact.
- Sit in your assigned seat – and **nowhere else**.
- If you need to go somewhere, you must raise your hand and ask, and take a buddy.
- **No horseplay what-so-ever**
- **No water fights, etc. what-so-ever**
- **PLEASE HAVE FUN AND DANCE DURING PEP TUNES/CADENCES!!! ☺**

FUNDRAISING EXPECTATIONS

It is an expectation of this ensemble that you are participating in all major fundraising efforts. This includes, but is not limited to the invitational, Viper Thunder Classic on September 26, 2020, the mattress sale close to Thanksgiving, the Car Show in the Spring, and any chocolate (or similar) sales. Simple fact, we cannot continue to be successful without funding; we cannot fundraise without help from you. If you want to be a championship ensemble, we all need to do our part and chip in to help with fundraising.

BAND PHYSICALS

All band members need to complete an athletic packet. Please go to www.vipervanguard.com to find the link to the AIA Health forms. You will also need to fill out information and complete the concussion test on registermyathlete.org. We do have a link to instructions for registermyathlete for your convenience.

STUDENTS NEED THIS IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE!

(Just like a sport)

Unfortunately the physicals held at Canyon View this year are not until the Saturday *after* band camp is supposed to begin, so as long as we can have band camp, this will not be an option. Though there are many places you can go for this. Any Fry's Little Clinics, your own physicians, urgent care facilities or Walgreens. I know there are many more as well. Feel free to lean on each other or myself if you need more suggestions.

PHYSICALS AND REGISTER MY ATHLETE MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE BAND CAMP BEGINS ON JULY 20!

Individual Maintenance Materials:

Percussion: Jacquie and Kevin will be going over all of these things with you at chop shops, etc.

Woodwinds: Cleaning string with weight, small cloth, all reeds (if applicable). Do not get the brushes that go through the inside of your instrument, these can pop springs. Simply use a cloth.

Brass: Cleaning snakes, mouthpiece brush, valve oil, cleaning rag, slide grease. Trombones – trombone slide grease and a small spray bottle for water.

Awards

Viper Vanguard Letters

A band letter will be given to members who:

1. Are a member in good standing of any school band program for the **entire school year**.
2. Have no unexcused absences from a performance, and no more than one excused absence from a performance.
3. Have been eligible for every performance.
4. Achieve the required number of points as designated and turn in the point sheet when required.
5. Not have been suspended or expelled during the school year.

Types of Letters:

Band Letter/ band pin/gold year

Gold year

Gold year

Gold year pin and a ring

Commemorative Plaque

(Now you know what to shoot for ☺)

First year in Viper Vanguard

Second year in Viper Vanguard

Third year in Viper Vanguard

Fourth year in Viper Vanguard

Seniors

There are also many other awards to be given at the end of the year, such as "Most Improved," "Outstanding Freshman," "John Philip Sousa," or "Louis Armstrong". Don't work hard to get these awards, work hard because it is what you want to do to be part of a great ensemble.

VIPER VANGUARD LETTERING POINTS SHEET

(NEEDED ONLY IF NOT IN BOTH SEMESTERS OF BAND)

<i>ACTIVITY</i>	<i>POINT VALUE</i>	<i>YOUR POINTS</i>
Attendance of every performance	20 points	_____
Three or less excused absences from rehearsal	20 points	_____
Solo and/or Ensemble Participation	20 points	_____
Participation in Regional Audition	20 points	_____
Regional Participation/Performance	20 points	_____
Participation in All State Audition	20 points	_____
All State Participation/Performance	20 points	_____
Private Lessons (at least ten lessons, attach documentation)	20 points	_____
Participation in community musical ensemble (e.g. Young Sounds or Youth Orchestra)	20 points	_____
Attend any professional or university musical performance – attach ticket stub or program	5 points ea.	_____
Attend any school performing arts performance (that you are not performing in) – attach ticket stub or program	3 points ea.	_____
Band Council Member	20 points	_____
	Total	_____
	(80+ points = eligible for a letter)	

EXPECTATIONS OF CONDUCT for Band Travel and Anytime

Practicing proper behavior is simply a matter of adhering to the School and District Codes of Conduct. Lack of behaving in the proper way is possible grounds for sending a student home at his/her own expense from a band activity. Remember, wherever we go we are representatives of Verrado High School and the **Viper Vanguard**. We want others to remember us in the utmost positive light. We want this to be an organization of which we are very proud to be a part.

- ☆ **Be responsible** for not only yourself but everyone else around you.
- ☆ **Be respectful** to everyone. Life is just better that way.
- ☆ Always know what the **expectations** are.
- ☆ Treat all chaperones and adults with the **utmost respect**. Every request made by a chaperone should be adhered to in a timely and courteous manner.
- ☆ **Never** go anywhere alone, and never go anywhere you should not be.
- ☆ **Never** ride in a vehicle other than the one designated. Family members are not allowed to take their own children from the group for any reason
- ☆ **No whining** or **complaining** allowed.
- ☆ Be **flexible** and **smile** as much as possible. ☺
- ☆ *NEVER BE LATE TO ANY ACTIVITY, YOU ARE HOLDING UP MANY OTHERS.*

Dress Code Expectations:

As we are representatives of Verrado High School and the Viper Vanguard, we need to always dress appropriately. **Follow the School Dress Code** always with any school or band function. Avoid wearing shirts that others may find offensive or any clothing that will make you vulnerable to potentially harmful situations. When in doubt, always choose more conservatively. Would you want your band director to see you in that? ☺

Motor Coach/Bus Expectations:

Because busses are a relatively small, confined space with several different people in it, it will help greatly when all of us agree to the following:

- ☆ **Be Considerate** of others and use low talking voices while in the motor coach.
- ☆ Treat your drivers with respect. Use simple words such as “Please” or “Thank You”. Requesting favors of the driver by shouting from the back of the motor coach is **not acceptable**. This will make the drivers truly want to drive us, and we will be treated better in return as well.
- ☆ If the motor coach has a restroom (which is doubtful for this year), it is for **emergency use only**.
- ☆ Use only audio equipment that has **head sets**.
- ☆ Stay in the motor coach that you are originally assigned.
- ☆ Always be in your assigned motor coach at least ten minutes before the itinerary departure time.
- ☆ **Pick up after yourself**. Make sure all drinks have a screw-on lid. We want to make sure we leave the bus **cleaner** than we left it.
- ☆ When in doubt regarding appropriate behavior, make the decision that will reflect your highest character and integrity.

Restaurant Expectations:

- ☆ Always be considerate of other cash-paying patrons and use **quiet voices** during conversation.
- ☆ Playing with your food, utensils, or condiments is inappropriate and completely unacceptable.
- ☆ Treating your server with respect will get you better service. Simple words such as “Please” and “Thank You” are strongly recommended.
- ☆ If attending a restaurant where tipping is appropriate, please figure 15-20% of your total to offer your server. Some restaurants automatically add a gratuity to larger parties, so watch for that too so you do not over tip. ☺

- ☆ When in doubt regarding appropriate behavior, make the decision that will reflect your highest character and integrity. Enjoy your meal, just remember to act appropriately.

Audience Expectations:

- ☆ Always be considerate of others around you. Do not interrupt performances with comments or any kind of talking, especially snickering. People around you are there to see the performance, not to hear you talk and laugh.
- ☆ Wait until breaks in the performance to get up and move. In a concert, this would be between pieces. In a marching band or drum corps show, this would be between ensembles.
- ☆ Applaud only when appropriate. Shouting or whistling during performances is not always appropriate. Never “Boo” a performance; the performers are working very hard – just like you.
- ☆ When in doubt regarding appropriate behavior, make the decision that will reflect your highest character and integrity. You are a performer too, how would you want your audience to treat you?

REMEMBER, YOU ARE REPRESENTATIVES OF VERRADO HIGH SCHOOL AND THE VIPER VANGUARD, ALWAYS ACT ACCORDINGLY.

IF ANY MEMBER OF THE VERRADO VIPER VANGUARD IS DISCOVERED IN THE POSSESSION OF ANY ILLEGAL SUBSTANCE, ALCOHOL, OR TOBACCO PRODUCTS, THEY MAY BE SUBJECT TO, BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING CONSEQUENCES:

*****SENT HOME FROM TRIP AT OWN EXPENSE**

*****REMOVAL FROM BAND**

*****SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL**

*****EXPULSION FROM SCHOOL**

*****ARREST**

Band Uniform Laws

YAY! UNIFORMS! We have pretty new uniforms! It is your responsibility to treat them as best you can. In Blue Knights, we called them the Superman Suits – because that’s how good uniforms make you feel; like Superman. There is a specific procedure for hanging the uniform, and putting it away. I will visually teach students during class. **Students are responsible for their uniform!** If students are acting inappropriately in uniform, and the uniform is damaged, the **student will pay to have it cleaned or replaced (a value of approximately 400 dollars).** There are certain things **we never do in uniform:**

- **Never drink a colored beverage**
- **Never partially remove uniforms – we will either all be in them, or all be out of them. (If we decide to remove jackets, it will be as an ensemble).**
- **Never, ever horseplay**

Always treat your uniform with the utmost respect, and they will look good for a long time – so *you* will look good for a long time.

For the uniform, there are items you will need to purchase. You can find that information below under financial information.

Colorguard – You are different – you will be asked to purchase your own uniform because you will keep it. This will include shoes and clothing. Your total cost will be approximately \$100 (possibly less if you already have some of the items). You will also find that information below under financial information.

Vanguard Jackets

Vanguard jackets are worn with pride around here. It is a black jacket with our logo and “Viper Vanguard” embroidered on the back. Student name and section go on the front. These jackets will represent the pride in the Viper Vanguard. There are certain rules with these jackets – if you decide to purchase one. They are for **committed members only** – meaning you need to have earned at least one letter **or** you have been in *two* semesters of marching band **or** you have been in *two* semesters of Symphonic Band **or** a combination of these. Students will not be allowed to share jackets with non-members. Reasoning for this – *they* did not earn it. Students may not act inappropriately in jackets – meaning no swearing, no goofing around, no horseplay. Just simply being on their best behavior and representing the Viper Vanguard in the proudest manner. This jacket is going to be something everyone wants - and they are going to want it more when they know they can’t have it, and can’t even borrow it. – and when they see what good people wear them. You may put your letter on it with your band pins and put patches on it from all kinds of different competitions. If you choose to use this as your letterman jacket, you can put your other sports’ pins on it as well. Because these are so special, they will cost \$125. If you use it in place of a letterman – you are saving over \$200.

BAND CAMP II!!

We will be going to band camp this year in Heber (North of Payson) from the 5-8th of October. It is called Camp Shadow Pines. The cost will be \$300 per student. This covers all food, staff, transportation, and shelter. This trip is as close to required as you can get without being required. If a student does not attend, not only does it hurt the ensemble, but the student will not be allowed to participate in performances and certain rehearsals until he/she has caught up with what we learned while they were gone. There is a chance they may not catch up for the season. This is simply a safety concern. Chances are if we don’t learn new drill (which we probably will) we will be changing some things during the camp. If the student jumps right in, he/she or others will be hurt. As the time approaches, we will have a parent-student meeting just for band camp.

Financial Information:

Certain items need to be purchased and are an expectation in order to participate. Your student will not receive his/her items if they are not pre-paid. Therefore, not being able to participate, therefore affecting their grade. Obviously if there is financial hardship, we will work something out. I always want everyone to participate. However, if I am not told about the situation, your student will not receive their items. You may submit your payment online with us so we don’t have to handle any physical transaction if you do not want to!

FINANCIAL INFO

The following can be paid using tax credit (must fill out a tax credit form and submit with payment) or directly to band club - for both MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO VHS Band:

- Activity Fee - \$100 – DISTRICT REQUIREMENT –If you receive free or reduced lunch, you may qualify for an exemption; please see me if you think you might. **To be paid to Verrado High School**
- Band Camp - \$300 – AN EXPECTATION FOR PARTICIPATION – *MUST BE PAID PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 20,2020.*

We have NEW one time payments that will include everything you need on our website, www.vipervanguard.com ! Please visit our website for details.

In general, this payment will include ALL required items, again, please look at the website for details as this is a generic list:

- Dry Cleaning of band uniform
- Dot Book (1)
- Black gloves (2 Pairs - with or without fingers) for brass and woodwinds OR Wristbands (2 Pairs for Percussion ONLY)
- Colorguard Uniform (for colorguard ONLY)
- Viper Socks (1 Pair)
- Feed the Band (Covers all meals before home football games and some competitions)
- Show Shirt (Required to wear under uniform or during home football games when the temperature is high)
- Show Shorts
- Viper Drawstring Backpack
- Water bottle
- Flipbook and fillers for Pep tunes
- Dinkles Marching Band Shoes
- Taxes/Fees/Shipping

The following are separate, but necessary:

- Athletic physical (\$20 if you go to Canyon View on 7/20). Little Clinics also do these.
- Your child's experience in band – PRICELESS!

I know this sounds like a lot, but most things can be kept for their entire 4 years here in band. Financial hardship should NEVER be a reason for your child not to participate. Please talk with me if needed, we will work something out. We have many fundraisers you and your student can participate in to help supplement those costs. WE NEED HELP WITH FUNDRAISERS! YOU MAY BE ABLE TO APPLY FUNDS FROM VOLUNTEERING TO YOUR CHILD'S ACCOUNT.

TAX CREDIT

PLEASE DO THIS AND ASK ANYONE YOU CAN POSSIBLY THINK OF TO HELP THIS WAY!!!!

The State of Arizona allows a contribution of up to \$400 (jointly) or \$200 (individually) to the school of your choice, and further designate it to the activity of your choice. This amount is taken directly off of your tax liability to the state. It is **not** a deduction, but better. For instance, if you use tax credit to donate \$400 and you owe the state \$450, you would now owe only \$50. If you are due a refund of \$200, you now get \$600! Pretty cool, huh! Not only all of that, but it also counts as a federal tax write-off!! **IT IS A VERY SIMPLE, SHORT FORM THAT LITERALLY TAKES 30 SECONDS TO FILL OUT! IT'S SO EASY AND NON-INVASIVE, I HAVE EVEN FILLED IT OUT FOR SOME PARENTS!**

Tax donations would be wonderful. We can use this money for a number of things, such as new instruments, more music, clinicians, or any supplies the band or students may need.

How do you make donations utilizing tax credit? All you need to do is fill out the lovely form we have up on our website, www.vipervanguard.com. **MAKE SURE YOU DESIGNATE VERRADO HIGH SCHOOL AND BAND** to make sure it goes into the right hands. **Very important – make sure I see your form and check so I can document it for my records!!** If a mistake is made in the bookstore, I need documentation to back everything up. There is a mailbox outside of my office if you would like to drop it in there. That is an option. If you prefer to go directly to the bookstore, make sure to save your receipt in case we need backup documentation.

You can use this for band camp fees!

You have to pay state taxes anyway. This allows you to tell the state government where your money goes.

VIPS (Vanguard Involved Parent Support) Team (Band Booster Club)

This group is Fun! New friends! Be more involved with your teen! Feeling good about helping a worthwhile program! Getting to be a part of your child's life! VIPS Team is the parent band booster for the Verrado Viper Vanguard and the spring band programs. We are moving into our 15th year of operation! We are an established non-profit organization through the Arizona Corporation Commission, are tax exempt and have our own 501-c3 tax ID number. We are excited to see what our group will accomplish together as we move into the future. Your support is crucial to the success of the Verrado High School Band program (including marching band, beginning band, symphonic band, jazz band, Venom Percussion, and Venom Winterguard) and your child's experience. Becoming a member of the VIPS Team is easy. You are a member of the VIPS Team if your child is in the band program; no membership fee! We hope to see you at as many VIPS Team meetings and band functions as possible. There are ample opportunities to help ranging from handing out uniforms, helping to make and serve food for "feed the band," help move equipment at competitions, acting as chaperone, helping produce our car show, or helping plan and run the invitational, as well as just having fun! We believe you have a lot to contribute and we hope that you will consider joining us! What is in it for you? As we said earlier, Fun! New friends! Being more involved with your student, and feeling good about helping a worthwhile program! Thank you in advance for your support. We are looking forward to getting to know you better!