

Tag Day 2019 Student Instructions

Be at homebase by 8:55 a.m. wearing your Band/Chorus shirt!

Be friendly, respectful, enthusiastic, and gracious!

What time should my team start? Strive to start knocking on doors at 9 a.m., and plan your route so you can return to GMHS at 12:30 p.m. with your group's donations! Use your home base to take breaks, etc.

What should I bring? Wear your official GMHS Band or Chorus shirt. You'll be loaded up with copies of tags, a collection receptacle (think: plastic baggie), and a color-marked map. Please bring your instrument if you play one that can travel; if you're a singer, warm up those vocal chords! Note: Students who do not wear their official shirt will not be eligible for Tag Day funds. Dress the part!

What do we say? Politely ring the doorbell or knock. Smile! Introduce yourselves as members of the GMHS Music Department and explain that you and your fellow musicians are collecting door-to-door throughout Falls Church City. Here's a sample script that might help you start a conversation:

*"Hello, we are members of the George Mason High School Music Department. We are visiting neighbors today to share news about our spring trip to Walt Disney World in Orlando Florida where we will have the opportunity to perform for their highly esteemed clinicians. We're also inviting members of the community who support excellence in our schools to help us raise funds for our trip. **Your donation of any size would make a big difference!** Would you be willing to help us today?"*

*WAIT for their reply. Be sure to say **thank you** after they respond.*

If it's your first GMHS trip, tell them how excited you are to go! If you gone on trips previously, tell them about the experience, and let them know community support made your trip possible. Let them know how the experience impacted you.

The neighbors may ask you about your musical background. Be willing to share why music is important to you, how you got started, and how performance trips have contributed to your musical education. Be creative and use your performing skills to weave your music into your pitch. Play! Students who perform often earn more donations. Your donors may like to hear you play, sing, or demonstrate your instrument to their children. Be receptive if the donor shares their own experiences with music!

What if they say YES? Graciously accept their cash donation with a smile. If they ask about writing a check, let them know it should be made out to *FCCPS Band Boosters*. Leave them a tag with scheduled performances and information about M.U.S.I.C. Days and **thank them** for their support.

What if they say NO? Thank them (politely, with a smile!) for their time and ask if you can leave them a tag with scheduled performances and information about M.U.S.I.C. Days before you go. Remember,

their refusal isn't personal. Your gracious attitude will leave a lasting impression of GMHS music, no matter the outcome!

Can we use social media for Tag Day? YES! We'd love parents and students post on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram (BandBoostersFCC). Snap photos, share and retweet stories, and let Facebook know where you'll be next. Use #FCCTagDay.

What happens at GMHS at 12:30? Once your team arrives back at GMHS, make your way down to the band room hallway and find the check-in table to turn in your collection package. **Make sure every team member is present** to check in at the check-in table! We want your person AND your money to be counted for this event, so it's super important everyone be there! Please stay together and be patient. We'll have plenty of volunteers, but if several teams arrive at once, you may have to wait to make sure your group is fully checked in.

Once you've checked in, head into the Band Room, grab a snack, and relax for a bit. The Band Booster parents will be busy behind the scenes counting each group's donations so we can get a preliminary tally before you go. While you wait, reflect on the event: What was the best thing that happened today? We'll share stories from our Tag Day experiences, and who knows? We might even award few prizes when we announce the results!

~~ Thank you for participating in TAG Day! ~~
Your **full** participation in this event makes a **HUGE** difference!!