

## A Letter to the Fans of the Pirate Band

Dear Pirate Band Members, Parents, and Fans,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your incredible show of support at the State Marching Contest in San Antonio. It was really great to see all of the PHS students, PHS faculty members, Central Administration officers, ex band members, ex band members' parents, and **above all**- parents, family and friends of the current Pirate Band members and staff there to support us.

What an amazing day we had! The feeling of the directors and the students was indescribable as we entered the tunnel for both Prelims and Finals. Hearing the cheers and screams and chants from the stands was a thrill that most of us (the students and directors) will never forget, especially as we entered the field for the Finals performance and as we exited the field. The students gave their best performance of the year in the Finals, and we know they could not have done so without feeling the love and support of family and friends.

To hear our named called after prelims as a "Finalist" was a really satisfying experience. I believe you could see the excitement and exhilaration in the students' as they celebrated with screams, hugs and tears in the stands upon being called. Then, to go into finals and through the merit of their incredible performance, move up to 5<sup>th</sup> place, only two rank points away from bronze, was truly awesome! To see the smiles on their faces and nearly uncontainable excitement as places 10 down to 6 were called as they stood on the field in formation during the full retreat made for an incredibly memorable experience, one the students and I will never forget!

I am also particularly proud of the parents of our students. Your support has been outstanding all year long. The "Sea of Green" was always there, and believe me, the students felt your excitement and energy at every competition and were able to channel it into great performances. I constantly tell the students that we are one big family, and this year has just reinforced that fact. I must also say, that in observing most of the crowd at State, you also demonstrated your class and sportsmanship. What a tribute to yourselves and your children! Thank you again for making this year's marching season one to remember!

In closing, I would like to say again how proud I am of all of you. We have had a great year to date (it's not over yet)! I am looking forward to a successful concert season as well. I am very proud and humbled to be your director.

Sincerely,  
Cody Newman  
Director of Bands  
Poteet High School