

*West Suburban Home School Band*

*also known as*

*The Patriots Marching Band*

*Member Handbook*

*2016-2017*

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## Means of communication

### DIRECTOR AND STAFF

Do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns. While email contact is preferred, both email addresses and phone numbers are in the band directory. Please do not expect the director to engage in important conversations or decision making at band practice. Email her the details earlier in the week, allowing her time to consider her response or follow-up with a phone call. MOST IMPORTANT- **Do not call her on Thursday, band day, after 2pm.** Emails should have **\*BAND\*** in capitals, as the first word of the Subject, making it easier to recognize in a very full inbox.

Mrs. Karen Borow  
**Director of Bands**

Mrs. Dena Wiesner-Pardee (aka Mrs. WP)  
**Assistant Director of Bands**  
Business Manager

Mrs. Kris Levander and Mrs. Peggy Szklanecki  
**Boosters/Parent Volunteer Coordinators**  
Band Parents

Mrs. Trudie Mergen  
**Webmaster/Creator of weekly Rehearsal Notes/Home School Outreach**  
Adult helper in Jr., Sr. and Sym. Bands (bass clarinet)

### BAND COMMUNICATIONS VIA WEBSITE

The WSHSB website, [www.wshsb.org](http://www.wshsb.org), is our **primary means of communication year-round**. It is a ready reference and wealth of information. Our intention is to use emails minimally, only when absolutely necessary.

During the two concert trimesters, **it is the responsibility of both parents and students** to check the [Member's News](#) webpage regularly for the most current information and to access/print the weekly **Rehearsal Notes** PDF, which contains "homework" assignments for each band. For quick, easy reference and planning ahead, Member's News also includes the following two charts and job assignments which are also part of the Rehearsal Notes document.

- Important Dates and Deadlines
- Sectional Chart for the following week which require earlier arrival times
- Sweeping/Trash Assignments for after Symphonic Band the next week

Our goal is to have the Rehearsal Notes posted on the web by Friday evening, the day after rehearsal. If the Friday goal cannot be met, then we will shoot for 6pm on the Saturday. If we anticipate they will be later than that, we will post a notice to that effect on Member's News and then send an email letting you know as soon as they are posted.

**Rehearsal Notes** are divided into two parts, Music Notes and General Notes and follow a very similar format from week to week. **They contain information for both parents AND students/helpers alike.** All band members, Cadet through Symphonic, should be printing out and utilizing these notes **as soon as they are available**. Waiting until the day before the next band rehearsal to get the notes is not going to do much good. A week's worth of daily practice cannot be done in one day, especially when there are things requiring practice to correct.

We try to keep the Rehearsal Notes as brief as possible and much time and work go into preparing them. Basic information for recurring events is not detailed in General Notes but can be found in this Handbook. With nearly 200 members, and 4 band levels it is not practical to repeat information at every band and expect everyone to hear and retain it, plus we also cannot afford the time. Be sure to record all important dates on your calendar when they are announced/posted.

Another important webpage you will use throughout the year is the [Forms/Documents](#) webpage with its general reference information and various forms you will need. Past Rehearsal Notes are accessible from the Rehearsal Notes Archive webpage and also accessible through the link on [Member's News](#) or [Forms/Documents](#).

During the marching trimester, as parade details become known, that information is added to the [Summer Marching](#) webpage under the respective parade. On Member's News we maintain the Important Dates and Deadlines and post weekly Summer Notes instead of Rehearsal Notes. Emails are kept to a minimum. If there are no new notes for a particular week there is a notice to that effect on Member's News.

## WSHSB CALENDAR

The Concert Season Calendar posted in late summer and is updated throughout the year as necessary. Generally, in late spring Marching Trimester information is added. Please advise the director, via email, of any conflicts **as soon as you are aware** of them, especially for a performance or any of the three practices prior to a concert. See also "Reporting Absences and Date Conflicts" found under "Attendance and Corrective Actions" further on in the Handbook. Periodically check the [Calendar](#) throughout the year for updated information. Record all important dates on your calendar when they are announced.

## BAND DIRECTORY

A few weeks after the first trimester is underway there will be a band directory in the music file folder for the oldest band member of every family. There will be a notice in the Rehearsal Notes when it is released. Parents, be sure to ask your student for the directory and keep it in a safe place. It has the name, address, phone number and email address for every band family, along with their student(s), instrument(s) and primary band(s). That same contact information is included for the director, assistant director, Booster coordinators and web manager. **This is a confidential list.** No one should use the directory to contact the entire group in a mass email, unless the director or assistant director gives you specific permission/instruction to do so. If such a communication is necessary, please include addresses as an undisclosed list or as blind carbon copies. Under no circumstances should an email be sent with every address showing.

If any of your contact information changes during the year (email address, home or cell phone) please inform the director, Mrs. Karen Borow, so we can reach you if/when we send out an email or need to call.

## IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES

On your registration form, we asked for a cell phone number for emergencies only. This number is NOT published in the band directory and will only be used to notify you of a last minute cancellation or the like. Occasionally weather or other unforeseen, last minute problems can cause a delay or cancellation of a rehearsal or event. While we have not had this happen yet, we've come close. Please have your cell phone on, en route to band-related events, so we can reach you should the need arise. If driving duties switch between Mom and Dad you may want to give us both numbers.

## Boosters

The WSHSB has been an all volunteer organization since the band's inception in 2001. To make the band what it is and to keep our fees as low as possible; NO ONE is compensated for what they do. In order for the band to survive we rely on the assistance of ALL our member families, on your gifts of time and talent.

To help share the load, **we require one parent from every family to sign-up for Booster hours/slots for each trimester (winter, spring, summer) in which their student(s) is/are participating. Both the winter and spring trimester EACH require at least 4 Boosters hours. The summer marching trimester requires at least 2 Booster summer positions/slots.** The volunteer positions are posted on the sign-up site about 10 days prior to the registration deadline and are filled on a first-come-first-served basis. Some jobs are ongoing while some are one-time only.

**Signing-up online** for the required Booster hours must be completed **prior to** submitting the registration form for each and every trimester, winter, spring and summer marching (if participating). At least one parent needs to review the job descriptions on our [Booster](#) webpage and then use the link provided to go to the actual sign-up site. Your choice(s) including date(s) and position(s) will also need to be entered on the respective registration form. Music will not be distributed until registration is complete with all necessary forms and fees submitted.

**NOTE: Online** sign-up is mandatory. Filling in a job on the registration form without entering your name **online** in the Sign-up Schedule is not sufficient. The registration form merely tells us what you chose to sign-up for. You must do both. Jobs remain open until online sign-up is completed. **If all jobs are filled during your students' band time you will need to choose a job in another band time or an event where open spots remain. This obligation needs to be taken seriously.** Please **1) Do the Booster task you agreed to. 2) Find a replacement if you can't fulfill your job. 3) Consider signing-up for an additional open job if your first was not too demanding.** Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

## Registration - Tuition, Fees, Fines

### CONCERT TRIMESTER FEES

For each of the two concert trimesters, there is a \$25 family fee plus tuition, a per student fee with a multi-student discount for three or more children. Fees for renting WSHSB instruments are additional and explained under [Rentals](#) further down.

**We do not offer scholarships.** However, for those who may find the payment of the family fee and/or per student fees financially burdensome or for whom it causes a hardship, we offer this alternative. You must cover your family fee and/or per student fees by making a commitment to obtain an equivalent amount in Well-Wishers for the Concert Program. See the “Well-Wishers” section, further down, for more details on this option.

You must

1. Submit a fully completed registration form including Booster hours (See Boosters above), and Commitment page.
2. Pay the family fee, per student tuition, and any instrument rental fees which are due at the time of registration.

**For each of the two concert trimesters, Winter and Spring, registration will not be considered complete, (August) auditions will not be accepted and music will not be distributed without the above points being met.** Forms are posted on our [Forms/Documents](#) webpage. All tuition and fees are non-refundable and are subject to change. **Late fees are applicable and increase after the deadline dates shown on the forms.**

### SUMMER MARCHING REGISTRATION AND HAT FINE

For the summer marching trimester, there is a place on the form for the each member’s Summer Marching Commitment for both camp(s) and parades. Registration will not be considered complete and music will not be distributed without a completed registration form including Booster hours (See Boosters above). Any instrument rental fees are also due at the time of registration. Forms are posted on our [Forms/Documents](#) webpage.

There is no cost to participate in summer marching. However, because every marcher wears a hat supplied by the band, there is a \$20 fine for non-returned hats. Laundered hats must be returned, or the \$20 fine paid, at the September Overview and Orientation meeting.

## Rentals

The band has a limited number of instruments available for rent, \$40 per instrument, per trimester. All instrument rental fees are due with each trimester’s registration, winter, spring, and summer. Contact the director for current instrument availability. The [Instrument Rental Agreement Form](#) is on [Forms/Documents](#).

Check your instrument a month before a concert so there is time for necessary repairs. Rental instruments must be returned in proper playing condition. [It is the member’s responsibility to have theirs repaired before returning it.](#)

**IMPORTANT: ALL rental/loaner instruments must be returned at the Annual Instrument Inventory in May even if you plan to rent one over the summer. Instruments are reissued for the summer and returned at the end of the summer trimester unless other arrangements have been made.** Parent helpers must also check in the instruments they have been using, as we need to make them available to incoming Cadets in the fall. This is the only time of the year that we are able to re-inventory all rental instruments. Our first priority is to provide rental instruments to new Cadets. After Cadets are taken care of, remaining band members will be accommodated. Instruments are offered on a [first come first served](#) basis as long as the WSHSB supply lasts. There is no guarantee that anyone will have the same exact instrument they played previously.

## Well-Wishers

Well-Wishers are advertisement spaces sold for inclusion in one of our two annual concert programs and provide an opportunity to help the band in a financial way. This would be beyond our basic fees, which we try to keep to a minimum. Well-Wishers begin at \$5 for one line, for listing a family or business name only. Other donation amounts are below. Most businesses purchase a quarter-page.

Donation amounts are -  
\$100 whole page    \$50 half page    \$25 quarter page    \$10 two lines    \$5 one line

There are a number of different ways to use a Well-Wisher as you may have seen in programs for other events.

- *Anyone including Mom, Dad, other relatives or friends can pay for a Well-Wisher and give a shout-out to special band members or recognize a special graduate.*
- *Businesses can advertise and/or “**Wish** the band **well**” by placing a Well-Wisher ad.*
- *A group of band members might also use one to encourage an individual(s), an entire instrument section or even the whole band.*
- *Well-Wishers can be expressions of gratitude, and so on.*

We also have a **Well-Wisher Option** for those who may find the payment of the Family Fee and/or per student fees financially burdensome or for whom it causes a hardship. While **we do not offer scholarships** we can offer this alternative. You must cover your family fee and/or per student fees by making a commitment to obtain an equivalent amount in Well-Wishers for the Concert Program. In the past, ambitious students/families have solicited sufficient amounts with a little planning and effort. [If you use this option you must indicate your decision to do so along with the amount to be covered, in the space provided on the registration form. Note that the deadline for those fee-covering, Well-Wishers will be ONE MONTH EARLIER than the deadline stated on the Well-Wisher form.](#)

The Well-Wisher form is available to print from our **Forms/Documents** webpage. You can start to collect them anytime. Print off a few forms to have available to solicit a Well-Wisher from businesses you patronize as well as family or friends. Feel free to request to see an old concert program for examples of Well-Wishers.

## Supplies

### LABEL ALL YOUR BELONGINGS, WIND AND PERCUSSION

We don't want to collect things in Lost and Found. Label your music folder, all parts to your music stand including the carry case, all your own books, refillable water bottles, and outerwear jackets to name a few. These are some of the items left after practice most frequently.

### SUPPLY LIST

**\*\*NOTE\*\*** [If you have any difficulty locating these books or supplies see the Music and Instrument Stores document on our FORMS/DOCUMENTS webpage for possible resources.](#)

### FOR ALL CADETS

- **Recommended** - BOOK w/CD - **HOME HELPER: FIRST LESSONS AT SCHOOL AND AT HOME** (instrument specific) by James O. Froseth, GIA publications, Inc  
Link if you can't find it in stores - [GIA Music Home Helper](#)
- **Recommended** - VIDEO - **THE ULTIMATE BEGINNER SERIES** (instrument specific, may not be available for every instrument) VHS format - Vol. 1. Some titles are available in DVD format. *Note: Check your local library. For example, Wheaton carries some of the titles with a one week loan period. Some parents have told us they are easy to borrow through the NETFLIX online video rental program (membership required).*  
[It is recommended that all wind beginners obtain \(purchase or borrow\) the Home Helper book and Volume 1 of The Ultimate Beginner video \(below\) over the summer if at all possible.](#) Working through the sessions in the book and watching the video a few times, students will become more familiar and comfortable with the instrument.
- **REQUIRED** - BOOK - **ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS for Band, BOOK 1 “Gold”** (instrument specific)  
(Or you can use [Essential Elements 2000](#), Book 1, the older title, which has the same contents.)

**ALL musicians, INCLUDING CADETS, need to have labeled and bring to rehearsal every week:**

- **Completed Practice Form** - Form is located on the **Forms/Documents** webpage
- **Instrument** with labeled case  
(For **ALL** percussionists this always includes - sticks, mallets, and bells/stand. In addition, Cadets will need practice pads for the second trimester.)
- **Folding music stand** - label all parts, if there is a music stand case, it too should be labeled.
- **Sharpened pencil** for making light notations on music, which are originals. **Nothing** other than pencil markings are to be made on the original music. The quantity of marks should be kept to a bare minimum and all marks must be erased before returning. NOTE - Some members prefer to make their own working copies, kept in page protectors, and return all original music early in the trimester.
- **Straight Mute** (for all trumpet players, except Cadets)  
This mute must be brought every week if called for in any piece of music.
- **Any sheet music** must be in a folder, large enough to protect music. Cadets will not have sheet music until the second trimester.

Every band member must bring their own music every week. Part assignments differ. Only helpers may share music. Otherwise is not fair for one or two musicians to expect share their neighbor's music to make up for their own irresponsibility, even if they have the same part.

**IMPORTANT: Do not play music assigned in a previous year. Part assignments change. If you made a working copy, file it away at home. Use the music as assigned each trimester or concert season. This includes titles such as Star Spangled Banner and God Bless America which are also reassigned each year.**

- **Metronome and tuner** - Cadets (for at home practice) and recommended for all wind musicians to own a metronome for use in daily practicing. Winds should also consider owning a tuner, but the metronome is definitely more important. The metronome will be needed for auditions.
- **The appropriate book(s),**

All Essential Element for Band Books and the Unisonal book are instrument specific.

**NOTE: Publisher, Hal Leonard has changed the title of their books but has not changed the content. The new title is Essential Elements for Band. Previous title was Essential Elements 2000. You can use either title, contents are the same. All are instrument specific.**

CADETS - Cadet books are described at the beginning of the supply list above.

CONCERT JR - Essential Elements for Band Book 2 "Red" for use at weekly rehearsals.

(Essential Elements for Band Book 1 "Gold" is only for the Junior audition, not weekly rehearsals)

**Note:** Essential Elements for Band Book 2 "Red" will not necessarily be used every week.

However, Junior **AND** Senior members are highly encouraged to use Book 2 to for daily practice, personal improvement and preparation for the Concert Senior audition.

CONCERT SR - Essential Elements for Band Book 2 "Red" (**See note about Book 2 above**)

The "Unisonal Scale" book listed under Symphonic is required for Senior auditions and highly recommended for daily practice to improve scales and technique.

SYMPHONIC - Unisonal Scales, Chords & Rhythmic Studies for Bands Compiled and edited by William C White, published by Carl Fischer

## SUPPLIES BEYOND WEEKLY NEEDS

- **Lyre and flip-folder** - (Not for Cadets) Used at concerts, for songs played by the combined concert bands.
- **Concert Dress Attire** – This applies to all levels INCLUDING CADETS. The basic dress code for all begins with black on the bottom and white on the top. Review the section "Concert Season Dress Codes" which contains specific details about shirts, pants, shoes and socks, etc., and what is and is not acceptable.

## Getting Acclimated

**NAME TAGS/SHEETS** – All band members are given their own name tag printed on an 8 ½ x 11 sheet of paper. It's to be folded in half to 8 ½ x 5 ½ and hung it on their stand behind the music, facing the director EVERY WEEK for both trimesters. It will help the director learn everyone's name and make is easier for the various and changing attendance takers. This name tag should be kept in the member's music folder or book for the entire year.

## TRIMESTER SCHEDULE

Two concert trimesters are followed by a voluntary, summer marching trimester. First concert trimester is late September through Winter Concert in January. Second concert trimester begins the week after the Winter concert through the Thursday (music return) after the Spring Concert in May. There are a few additional performance opportunities during the year. Members are expected to make a commitment for the entire Concert Season, which includes both trimesters, September through May.

## PROBLEMATIC DEVICES

- **Cell phones** We are aware of the convenience and increasing presence of cell phones in society. However, no band member should have a cell phone with him or her, at their place, during practice. If anyone brings a cell phone with them, it needs to be off or on vibrate during practice and must remain in their instrument case until their practice is over.
- **Laptop computers** No student should bring a laptop computer to band practices or rehearsals. Of course, parents may bring a laptop to work on while waiting for their student.
- **Other devices** Portable audio and video devices DO NOT BELONG at band practice. The number of electronic and battery-operated diversions continues to multiply. You are expected to avoid bringing things of this nature to weekly practice. This includes Game Boys, iPods, PSP's, etc.

## From Week to Week

### WEEKLY BAND PRACTICE TIMES

We meet in Cornelius Hall at Resurrection Church, Wayne, IL (NW corner of Route 59 & Army Trail Road). Below is the timetable for the entire evening.

### ARRIVAL TIMES FOR ALL MUSICIANS

Parents have the regular responsibility of getting their student(s), to and from band each week, on time, at least 10-15 minutes before their band time or 30 minutes ahead when a sectional is assigned. Please make sure they have all their equipment and adhere to the dress code.

All students need to arrive early enough to prepare their instruments, stands and music, and be ready to begin playing promptly at their band's practice time. Percussionists need to assist with ALL the instrument set-up necessary for their band, BEFORE their practice time begins. **Instrument sections assigned to a sectional must arrive 30 minutes prior to their band's start time. Read more about sectionals further on.**

**SPECIAL NOTE ON EXTRA EARLY ARRIVALS** - If due to car pooling, you are going to be dropped off or arrive an hour before your band starts, **the director expects you to be a helper in the band below the one you are assigned to.** She will need to know this ASAP for music distribution purposes. Otherwise, arrive for your assigned band not more than 15 minutes before its start time (30 minutes if you have a sectional), due to space constraints in the hall. We are not prepared to supervise waiting students. If your child is unable to participate in playing, a parent will be required to come and supervise their student.

**We NEED regular assistance of Cadets and their parents at weekly practices!** There is a large amount of unloading and set-up required to prepare for the evening's band rehearsals. The more parents and students helping, the faster set-up will go. Note below the **REQUIRED ARRIVAL TIME OF 4:45pm**. Mrs. Borow aims to be there 15 minutes earlier, at 4:30, barring any unexpected problems that might arise. Any Cadets arriving at or just before 5:15 are already late!!!

At 4:45 all Cadet percussionists and their parents must

1. Help unload the trailer
2. Carry in the unloaded percussion equipment
3. Assist the director in setting-up all the percussion equipment in the percussion section.

At 4:45 all Cadet wind players and their parents must assist the parent-in-charge in setting-up chairs in Cornelius hall. When that task is finished then help carry in any music files and remaining percussion equipment.

**ALL ARE EXPECTED TO HELP.**

5:15-6:00 – Cadet Band

6:00-7:00 – Concert Junior Band

7:00-8:00 – Concert Senior Band

8:00-9:00 – Symphonic Band

9:00-9:30 – Reset hall – All Symphonic members are expected to help load music file boxes and equipment, reset the room, and clean up after band before leaving. All percussionists are asked to devote themselves to breaking down and loading the percussion equipment. Sweeping and trash tasks are assigned and you are responsible for getting a sub if you will not be there. There is time to talk with friends **after** cars are loaded and the hall is reset.

9:45 – All should have left the premises by this time.

## REGARDING SECTIONALS

Sectionals afford extra time for a designated instrument group to hone in on problem passages or other areas needing attention. They are held in one of the various side rooms of Cornelius Hall for approximately 15 minutes. Cadet sectionals are usually, but not always, held at the beginning of their rehearsal time, while all other bands meet for the 15 minutes PRIOR to their band's rehearsal. **SCHEDULED SECTIONALS ARE IMPORTANT AND CAN BE A WASTE OF THE LEADER'S TIME IF THE ASSIGNED GROUP DOES NOT SHOW UP.** To know which instrument groups are assigned and for what times, there is a chart of scheduled sectionals in the weekly Rehearsal Notes which is also included on our Member's News webpage. Details are listed under each band's Music Notes. Come prepared having practiced with special emphasis on the specified exercises/passages/measures. Sectional participants need to arrive 30 minutes prior to their band time so they can be ready for their sectional at quarter to the hour.

## AT BAND PRACTICE

There are many people coming and going during band practice and storage space for cases is limited. Cases must be CLOSED, LATCHED and put NEATLY and ORDERLY on or under the tables provided along the kitchen wall.

**Cadet and Senior** are to put their cases on and under the tables between the freezer and the kitchen door.

**Junior and Symphonic** are to put their cases on and under the tables between the kitchen door and the bar.

As the different groups come and go, it will make it easier to navigate the space. **No one's cases or belongings are to be left along the window wall or in the percussion section, including those of the percussionists.** It is necessary to move around the percussion area throughout practice and that space needs to be free of clutter.

- **File Folders** - Be sure to **check your file folder** at the front table every week, for any music or other papers that are there for you. Music distribution generally continues over the earlier weeks of the trimester.
- **Tuning** - Wind musicians, after you arrive and get your wind instrument out, you need to **"tune" your instrument** using your own LABELED tuner or one at the front table. It is the responsibility of the principle chairs to see to it that their entire section is tuned before their band practice begins. At some point, to help your band stay in tune, you may be asked to bring your own LABELED tuner to ALL rehearsals and keep it turned-on, on your stand, during the rehearsal. Use should also use it in your daily practice.
- **Stay inside** - **Remember that we are only allowed to use Cornelius Hall.** No one should be loitering in the hallway or stairwell, nor be outside in the parking lot, other than going to and from your car. Feel free to bring a book to read, homework or other quiet activity to do while waiting for your band to practice or for your ride home.
- **Especially for Percussionists** - Any percussion member who is not assigned a part to play in a song is to be seated quietly in the chairs provided. No one is to leave the percussion section during their band time. Likewise no one should enter or be in the percussion area if they are not playing in that specific band.
- **Noise from those not rehearsing, etc** - Those waiting for their band time need to keep their voices subdued and not interfere with any band's practice. We are happy to have you enjoy each other's company but our primary activity is band practice. Also, there should be no gathering or loitering in the bathroom.
- **No Switching of Parts** - **No band members are to take it upon themselves to switch parts with anyone else in their section, FOR ANY REASON!** Switching of parts will take place only with the knowledge and specific instruction of the appropriate director. If anyone is having a problem with a particular song, do not wait until band practice to tell the director. It is the member's responsibility to email their problems or concerns to the director in advance.

- **Only Play in Band(s) Auditioned For** While you may audition for more than one band, you must audition for each band on the instrument you intend to play in that band. No member has the authority to bypass the audition process by acquiring another band's/instrument's music or inserting themselves into a band they never auditioned for. This is different from being a (director approved) helper on your primary instrument in another band, which does not require an extra audition to fulfill that role. There are also times when the director may request a member's help, crossing the band lines, but these kinds of situations always require the director's knowledge and approval.
- **Talking During Band** – Talking between songs is generally not a problem unless the director is speaking, in which case, all should be quiet. There should also be no talking once the director begins to work on a piece of music. While practicing a song she may make frequent stops in order to fine tune something, pick apart a passage or work on a problem area. It is difficult, if not impossible, for her to speak to the band or a section and be heard over the chatting. This is not a problem if members wait patiently, remain quiet and pay attention.
- **Noise in the Parking Lot** – Everyone needs to keep their voices down while in the parking lot. The noise level easily escalates. While everyone's help in loading band equipment after Symphonic Band is appreciated, it's after 9pm and things can become rather rowdy. The pastor lives in the rectory on the west side of the parking lot, across from Cornelius Hall. Please be considerate. This is not a playground or public park.

### **PRACTICE TIMES AND PRACTICE REPORTS**

At band practice, students work together as a group. Students are expected to take personal responsibility for their musical development as part of their home schooling experience. Most school bands practice together 5 hours a week or 70 hours per semester. We only practice together 1 hour a week for a total of 14 hours per semester and then we have our concert. Therefore, the majority of practice time occurs at home and is critical to the success of all. Daily practice is required and is the only sure means of progressing and improving.

Practicing should be done with any available audio links. More information on audio links is further down.

The following are suggested daily, minimum practice times, for 5 days a week.

- Cadets should progress from 20 - 30 min. over the first trimester, 30 - 45 min. second trimester.
- Concert Junior and Concert Senior should practice a minimum of 30 - 45 min.
- Symphonic should practice a minimum of 45 - 60 min.

Parents may adjust this time to meet the need or ability of their student as long as the student can continue to be a contributing member of the band. Please talk to the Director if your child is meeting this minimum practice time and is not able to keep up.

See [Forms/Documents](#) for the WSHSB PRACTICE REPORT. All band members, wind and percussion, are to use this form for reporting the total of each week's practice, throughout the year. The form requires both the student's first and last name and a parent's signature. The required parent signature tells us you agree with and accept the practice time reported.

Practice reports serve a variety of purposes. An important one applies to auditions. Close points can make it difficult when determining chair positions. The directors will refer to the practice reports in their decision-making process. It is in your best interest to turn in a weekly practice report.

Practice hours will be collected until two weeks before the concert. Hours will be tallied and the three highest from each band, including Cadet, will be published in the respective concert program. Attendance at dress rehearsal and the concert are required to be eligible as a winner.

### **MUSIC RESOURCES – AUDIO LINKS**

Two sites are particularly useful for providing audio links for the songs we are playing. They are: [JW Pepper](#) and [Stantons](#). You might also try searching YouTube using "Band", the title, composer and/or arranger.

It will greatly aid personal progress and mastery if students play along with songs links in their daily practice. Of course, it will probably take a while until they are able to play at the tempo of the recording. They will find just listening to the music frequently, apart from their practice time, will improve their ability to learn and play the song.

In some cases, a link may be to a clip, rather than the complete song, but at least they will get a taste of the music. It is recommended that the files/links are saved to your computer. If the exact same arrangement of a song is not available, occasionally we may provide a link to a version different from the one we are using. In this case, while they will not be able to play along, they can listen to get a feel for the music.

## **MUSIC RESOURCES - WEBPAGE**

The first link on this page is to recordings of the WSHSB live, in concert. There are also some parade photos. Please enjoy and share this link with prospective members, family and friends.

Also on Music Resources you will find a good number of links to websites, YouTube videos, and documents to help students better understand and improve the playing of their specific instrument, both wind and percussion. For percussionists we strongly encourage them to utilize the Vic Firth Percussion Rudiments which are actually lessons in skills every percussionist should know.

*The following sections should be reviewed by parents with their student(s) so all are aware of what is expected as well as what corrective actions may occur.*

- **“Rules of Conduct, Building Rules, Etc.”**
- **“Respect for WSHSB Equipment”**
- **“Attendance, Absences and Corrective Actions”**

## **Rules of Conduct, Building Rules, Etc.**

### **RULES OF CONDUCT**

**We expect students to act like Christian ladies and gentlemen.**

The band director reserves the right to deny students participation in a rehearsal or performance due to inappropriate behavior.

#### **Disciplinary Policy**

The code of conduct will be enforced before, during, and after band anywhere on the property in which the band resides. The following behavior will result in immediate disciplinary action.

- Foul language or unwholesome talk.
- Roughhousing
- Disruptive behavior, including chatting once director begins songs
- Physical display of affection
- Disrespect for those in authority
- Illegal drugs and/or weapons
- All other inappropriate behavior as deemed by the director.

### **BUILDING RULES**

These rules apply to our rehearsal facility and any other practice or performance facility the band uses.

- No running, playing, loud talking, or loitering in the bathroom, parking lot, or other areas of facility.
- No disrespectful, vulgar, or inappropriate language.
- Other than a water bottle, no food or drink is allowed.
- Keep the building clean. Please pick up your own trash and dispose of it properly.
- Children are not permitted to play in or around cars in the parking lot or other outside areas.
- The band and its personnel have been approved to use **Cornelius Hall only**. There is no access to any other areas of the facility.

### **RESPECT FOR WSHSB EQUIPMENT**

All WSHSB equipment is purchased with tuition fees and other funds we raise. In the percussion section alone, individual items are very expensive and each could cost **thousands** of dollars to replace. Most percussion equipment is meant to remain at a permanent location. Because we do not have a permanent facility we must move

it in and out every week. Great care must be taken when unloading, loading, and going over thresholds, etc. Also, equipment on wheels is not to be "ridden." The wheels and other parts cannot take such abuse.

If a student damages equipment parents may be required to help cover the cost.

## Attendance, Absences and Corrective Actions

### REPORTING ABSENCES and DATE CONFLICTS

Absences, whether anticipated or not, should be reported as soon as possible. The band director, Mrs. Karen Borow **expects an email** for any and all absences. Include a CC to Mrs. Peggy Szklaneki, Booster coordinator. Advance notice facilitates the reorganizing of parts, if necessary. The more advanced the notice the better, especially for higher chairs.

E-mails should be sent before noon the day of practice. Because attendance is taken by instrument section, state the student's name, the band level(s) he or she plays in (Cadet, Concert Junior, Concert Senior, Symphonic) and the instrument played. Email addresses and phone numbers are listed in the band directory.

Date conflicts, whether for practices, dress rehearsals or concerts, are to be made known by email **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE** to the band director. **Ideally this would happen before the music is distributed for the trimester.** This notification is especially important for those with higher chairs, and/or featured or solo passages. These conflicts need to be addressed and resolved as soon as they arise.

### HOW MULTIPLE ABSENCES ARE HANDLED PER TRIMESTER

3 absences: may result in chair demotion/ automatic reaudition

4 absences: may move to the bottom of the roster for your instrument section

5 absences: may not be permitted to perform in the concert

We are not trying to eliminate musicians - on the contrary, we need 100% of the musicians 100% of the time. It is your responsibility to keep track of absences and do what is necessary to ensure your child is able to perform with us.

### ATTENDANCE CHOICES AFFECT THE BAND

There is a Commitment page included as part of the Registration Form. On this page all known date conflicts must be listed and a parent must date and sign it.

To make all roster/repertoire decisions, it is imperative the Director knows each member's level of commitment to the band, best reflected by their attendance. We instituted an absence "allowance limit" not due to illness, family difficulties or other unexpected absences, rather because parents were allowing their students to over schedule from the myriad of activities available to homeschoolers. The absence allowance is meant as a last resort - not as a pass to attend other events. Principal players (section leaders) especially, will be held to an even higher standard. Please respect the hard work and many hours it takes our band volunteer team to provide this experience, by requiring your child to be a responsible, conscientious member of the band.

## Regarding WSHSB Sheet Music

### CARING FOR WSHSB MUSIC

Since the music you are receiving is originals, extra care must be taken to preserve it. We cannot stress this enough. Some of the arrangements we use, are now permanently out of print, which makes them all the more valuable. Storing your music in its folder, making sure there are no edges hanging out, is a good start. Music is not to be defaced, dog-eared, or torn, and should be kept from getting wet from spills or rain. Keep your music in a safe place, not where younger siblings may get to it. Also, **NEVER CUT MUSIC** to make it fit a flip-folder. **There is a fine, for damaged (in our judgment) or lost music; \$4 per full size, \$1 per marching size.** NOTE - To avoid these problems, some members prefer to make their own working copies, kept in a binder in page protectors, and return all original music early in the trimester.

## NOTE ON MISSING MUSIC

If you have not received a song listed under your band, **it is your responsibility** to email that information to Mrs. Borow immediately. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE NEXT THURSDAY TO TELL HER**. She needs to get the music in your file folder and you must have the music to practice with. Do not wait until later in the trimester to say you never got a particular title, because then you will owe \$1 to \$4 per missing song.

## WSHSB MUSIC RETURN

**Before returning any music you must erase all pencil marks.** At the end of each concert trimester there will be a regular music collection. However, if you have made your own working copies and wish to return your original music earlier, watch the weekly Rehearsal Notes. **DO NOT RETURN MUSIC PREMATURELY.** We'll announce when the originals may be returned for a limited period, for approximately two weeks from the time music distribution ends. Otherwise you must wait until the collection after the concert. No one should return music unless you have your own working copy in your folder.

When returning music early:

1. Keep each band's music separate.
2. Paperclip each band's music together in alphabetical order.
3. Include your name on a piece of paper.
4. Give your music to one of the parent helpers at the front table. No one is to return music in his or her hanging folder.

Do not turn in original music simply because we haven't been playing it. If you have not made working copies, do not return music until the end of the trimester. The only exception would be if we ask you to return something mid-trimester and we post the specific title(s) in the weekly Rehearsal Notes.

All remaining concert music needs to be handed-in the week after the concert along with a separate Music Return Form for each band. More specific directions will be in the Post-Concert Notes. **LATE RETURNS CAUSE MUCH EXTRA WORK!** On that collection night, all returned music is sorted into song piles for each band. Each pile is then organized into score order, ready to file in cabinets. This task is performed by a large number of volunteers, mostly parents, making it a very efficient process. Therefore you must have someone else, (other than Mrs. Borow, or any Borow family member) return your music for you. If you mail it, do so via Priority Mail ASAP after the concert so it is received by the collection date, otherwise it will be late. **It is preferred that all music be returned in person.**

## Concert Season Dress Codes

**PARENTS:** Please review the following dress codes for weekly band practices and the WSHSB Concert Season **with your student(s), Cadets included.** See all the specific details about shirts, pants, shoes and socks, etc. Review them again a couple weeks before each concert or performance. At that time, check the fit and readiness of the items they will need to wear. **DO NOT CALL the week of or, much less, the day before a performance and expect a jacket/pants exchange or fitting.**

## DRESS CODE OVERVIEW

For quick reference, this set of dress codes may be accessed directly from the [Forms/Documents](#) webpage.

The WSHSB is a Christian home schooled children's band. As with any organization, there are rules. Each individual in the band not only represents himself and his family, but Christian homeschoolers. Individual band members offer a *visual* testimony of the values, deportment, character and focus of the WSHSB at large. The following dress code is not a judgment on individual dress styles or personalities but is a requirement for membership in the WSHSB organization for the purpose of appearance, unity and discipline.

There are opportunities for self-expression and individuality in the WSHSB: performances for auditions, solo/ensemble contests, concert opportunities as well as numerous service and musicianship opportunities. These are positive and acceptable, non-visual ways to stand out in our organization.

If an individual chooses to become a member of the WSHSB band, he will be required to comply with the dress and behavioral codes of the band. The following dress codes are a requirement for membership in our organization. **They are not optional.** If this code is beyond what a member thinks he can comply with, it would be better for both him and the band that he not join.

## DRESS CODE FOR PRACTICES

We will hold parents responsible to insure their child's personal appearance including clothing provide a fitting testimony to a Christian home school band. We should honor the Lord through what we wear. When a prospective home schooling family visits us, they come to evaluate our band to see if it is a good fit for their family. One way they judge the band is by how our individual members look. Outfits that are immodest, too tight, short, loose, sheer, torn, contain inappropriate messages or symbols and any hair color that is not a naturally occurring shade are not acceptable. Clothing, hair styles and accessories chosen to attract undue attention, are also unacceptable. Parents, please show appropriate consideration. Band members; please remove any hat before taking your place at band practice.

No one should be put in the awkward position of dealing with, or being told their appearance or dress is inappropriate at band practice or other public appearance. If a student comes to band dressed inappropriately they will be given an XXL t-shirt to wear for the duration of rehearsal.

## A UNIFORM LOOK

As in many disciplined groups (i.e., sports teams, religious organizations, drum corps), a dress code is established, respected and followed. We have a set uniform. The goal is to provide a clean, neat uniform appearance to provide discipline. We strive to become one band, one look, one sound. In order to do this, no one member's appearance should stand out. We are a group with a common goal and focus. Women have the option to wear pants or skirts, but the shirt, bow tie and cummerbund or jacket are required, as specified. Unlike other bands and groups, we do not require you to purchase uniform accessories nor do we charge a rental fee for these items. Damage or loss will result in a replacement fee. However, we do require that the dress code be strictly adhered to.

The Summer Marching Dress Code is slightly different from Concert Dress and is described in detail on the [Summer Marching](#) web page.

## WSHSB DRESS REHEARSAL AND CONCERT DRESS CODE:

**NOTE:** The band director reserves the right to deny any student's participation in a performance due to inappropriate dress or appearance.

**The basic dress code for all begins with black on the bottom and white on the top. Details follow for what is and is not acceptable.**

### TOPS – *Unacceptable tops is one of the biggest problem areas. Please read carefully.*

- White, woven, long-sleeved, button-down dress shirt **with pointed collar**, which must be **buttoned all the way up to the neck** to accommodate bow ties. Shirt must be long enough to be tucked-in. No exposed midriff. We suggest girls wear a boy's or small men's dress shirt.
- No tight-fitting blouses and no blouses with v-necks, Peter-Pan collars, lacy trim, ruffles or puffed sleeves. No satiny, shiny or sheer material. No knits, pullovers, t-shirts, tank tops, turtlenecks, or mock necks.
- Only solid white or flesh-tone undergarments to be worn under dress shirts.

### BOTTOMS

- Due to the changing fads in women's' pants towards revealing, form-fitting leggings, the dress code has changed to be more specific: Both men and women are officially required to wear "trouser-style" dress pants. Parents, please help us maintain a military, uniform look to our band by providing the proper style pants for your children. Also remember that the band has black pants you can borrow.

Black conservative "trouser-style" dress pants. No tight-fitting, denim/jeans, low-rise, or Capri-style pants. There should be no ornamentation such as studs, rhinestones or embroidery. If you need pants, sign up for the Jacket and Pants fitting in November to get a pair of WSHSB pants, available for lending.

- Girls have the option of wearing a conservative, modest, below the knee or longer skirt, with only small slits if necessary. No denim or leather. See more info regarding skirts at the end of this list.

### SHOES and SOCKS

- Girls wearing a skirt for a concert wear flesh-colored nylons. (This differs from the marching dress code.)

- Black, opaque, dress/trouser socks must be worn by anyone wearing pants. Socks must be long enough so no color other than solid black is visible below the hem of the pants, when seated. Therefore, no sheer, black nylon knee-highs for ladies.
- Black leather shoes of a conservative style with a low heel and sole. Shoes must be **solid black** with no other colors. If shoes are laced, laces must be black. No gym shoes, sandals, boots or flip-flops.

### **CUMMERBUNDS and BOW TIES**

Neither is worn by Cadets. Band supplies/loans them when needed. They are collected after each performance.

- Red bow ties – Worn by Concert Junior and up

#### **RETURNING BOW TIES**

If your bow tie is coming apart you have one of two choices when returning it –

Make the necessary sewing repairs **with red thread** before returning it and owe nothing.

OR

Pay \$5 along with the unrepaired bow tie. Make it known that it needs repair

- Red cummerbunds – Worn by Concert Senior and up

### **BLUE SYMPHONIC JACKETS**

Symphonic members wear blue jackets, provided by the band.

For details about how to get a jacket and/or the return requirements, see the “Jacket and Pants Fitting” section in the Handbook.

### **AWARDS and JEWELRY**

- Award medals must be pinned on the red award ribbon, which is worn on the left side of the shirt (Cadet, Concert Junior and Concert Senior) or jacket (Symphonic). The top of the ribbon should be even with the lowest tip of the collar point.
- Jewelry should be limited to a wristwatch, small rings (so they cannot be seen by the audience), and small earrings. Boys are not allowed to wear earrings.

### **HAIR and MAKEUP**

- Any hair accessories such as barrettes or headbands may be solid red or white, or must match the student’s hair color.
- Please, no outstanding makeup, nail colors, hairstyles, or trendy fashions that attract attention to a student’s appearance over that of the band as a whole. No unnatural shade of hair color.

### **REMAIN IN CONCERT DRESS**

- Remain in your concert dress, **until you leave the event**. Shirts are to stay on and tucked-in. Bow ties and cummerbunds should also be left on unless they are being collected immediately after the performance.

### **REGARDING SKIRTS**

Some have expressed difficulty in finding longer length skirts for girls to wear at concerts. Here are links to websites that carry concert dress items. Please use your own judgment as to which site to use or do a search for other concert dress sites.

[Formal Fashions Inc.](#) This site has become a favorite for the director. They offer modest fashions good for wearing anytime, reasonable prices, good fit and excellent customer service.

[E C Benson Concert Wear/Equipment](#)

[ConcertDress.com - Welcome](#)

[Band Mart Accessories](#)

## **Jacket and Pants Fitting**

We hold a jacket and pants fitting **only once a year**.

After this one and only fitting opportunity everything is packed away and not accessible.

**For 2016-2017 the Jacket/Pants coordinators are Mr. Burt Andrews and Mrs. Pamela Andrews.**

A Jackets and Pants Fitting/Exchange is held on an evening or two in the first trimester. The location will be announced in the Rehearsal Notes. The date is on the [Calendar](#) and in the weekly Rehearsal Notes. If you already

have a blue band jacket and/or pair of black band pants, you need to try on the jacket and/or pants before the fitting date(s). **Except for fitting day in November, all jackets and pants must be turned in directly to Mr. or Mrs. Andrews – NOT to Mrs. Borow /to any Borow family member/placed in their van and or brought to their house.** Pants being returned should be laundered. If you have outgrown your jacket or are returning it for any reason you must do one or the other

- Return the dry-cleaned jacket to the jacket coordinator, NOT MRS. BOROW, in the cleaner's bag with cleaning tags/receipt attached  
OR
- Pay \$10 and we will have the jacket dry-cleaned

New Symphonic Band members, who do not have a blue band jacket, will need to sign-up at band to come to the Jacket and Pants Fitting/Exchange to be fitted for a jacket. Any band member, from any level, who does not own a skirt or pants that meets the dress code criteria, may borrow a pair of black band pants and be fitted for them on the same dates. The pants we have are mostly Junior High sizes.

Sign-up at the front tables at band, or email or call the Andrews if you need to exchange or pick up a jacket or pants. They need to know how many people to plan for and how many volunteers to recruit for assistance. They can also give directions to the location of the fitting. **DO NOT CALL the week of or, much less, the day before a performance and expect a jacket/pants exchange or fitting.**

### USED BAND CLOTHING

There is large blue bin at the front table where we accept donations of clothing which band members have outgrown or no longer need. This includes white dress shirts, long and short-sleeved, black pants and shoes. Mr. and Mrs. Andrews will manage and bring the bin to and from band every week. Items are free to members who need them.

## Special Circumstances

### HELPERS FOR CADET BAND

We'd very much appreciate volunteer, experienced musicians from the upper bands to assist as helpers within the Cadet band. Once helpers commit they are expected to fulfill that role for the entire concert season, both trimesters. You will model and watch for correct playing technique including hand positions, fingering and posture. General help within the section may also be requested. You should have your instrument with you. Notify the director if you are willing to be a Cadet helper and do so by the deadline stated on the calendar, which is generally mid-August.

### STUDENT AND ADULT HELPERS

Student or adult band members interested in being a helper as a musician in a lower band are welcome to do so with the approval of the director. However, for a variety of reasons there may be limits on the number of helpers allowed. Alternatively, the director may invite someone to become a helper, based on musical needs. Once helpers commit, they are expected to fulfill that role for the entire concert season, both trimesters. Sheet music may need to be shared with a stand partner.

**We need advance notice of all helpers' intentions to facilitate music distribution.** You must notify the director if you are willing to be a helper, doing so by the deadline stated on the calendar, which is generally mid-August.

**Student helpers** - As long as a student is still 18 on September 1 they are considered students for that concert year. Once a student turns 19, on or before September 1, they are welcome to join or continue under the adult status. **Those willing to be a student helper should inform the director within two weeks of the release of the roster.**

**Adult helpers** are returning, aged-out former students, past adult members or totally new adults/parents. If you would like to play in the WSHSB as an adult helper, you must be willing to play in a band, according to need, as determined by the director. Adults, new to Cadet Band are also referred to as adult helpers. **Those willing to be an adult helper should indicate their desire in the space provided on the Registration Form.** Regardless of age, once a student becomes an adult helper they may not revert to student status.

Any adult helper wanting to move into either Senior or Symphonic band, for the first time, needs to submit an audition. Auditions can be either pre-recorded, or live (by appointment only). Audition requirements can be found on the band website. If you already played in either of those bands in the prior season and are not seeking to move up a band, no additional audition is necessary.

### **MULTIPLE INSTRUMENTS**

Junior, Senior and Symphonic Band members may take up a second instrument as a Cadet. However, when the combined bands play, they must play their instrument from the higher band, otherwise known as their primary instrument. **IMPORTANT:** Exceptions to this rule may occur based on the musical needs of a particular song. In that case, students who play more than one instrument are expected to accept and follow the director's choice/decision as to which instrument they will play for that song. See also in this Handbook, "Only Play in Band(s) Auditioned For" under "From Week to Week."

## **Additional Performance Opportunities**

### **CADET PERFORMANCES**

While cadets are not featured at the WSHSB formal concerts, Cadets have two separate performances/concerts, winter and spring, for their parents, siblings and grandparents, generally at Resurrection Church in Cornelius Hall, during their regular practice time. Concert dress is required. The Concert Season Dress Code is detailed above. More performance specifics will be included in the General Notes portion of the weekly Rehearsal Notes when details are finalized.

### **WHEATON LIGHT-A-HOLIDAY PARADE**

The Wheaton Light-A-Holiday Parade is in downtown Wheaton on Friday night, the day after Thanksgiving. Participation is voluntary. You need not have marched before to participate in the Wheaton parade and Cadets may march as part of the Patriot Auxiliary. The sign-up sheets are available at the front tables starting with the first rehearsal in September to allow sufficient time for music distribution and rehearsing of songs. Sign-up deadline is generally mid-October.

ALL participants are expected to wear a Santa Hat (large enough to cover ears is good) and normal winter dress outerwear for the parade – dress for the weather. Wear dark pants and, ideally, black shoes, to keep a uniform look. Mittens that allow you to uncover your fingers would be helpful, or perhaps a pair of gloves with the fingertips cut off, for clarinets. Try playing your instrument at home while wearing them. Some find it helpful to bring a bunch of their own hand-warmer packets in their pockets for keeping both their hands and instruments warm.

If you do not memorize your music, you should have a flip-folder and lyre, along with the songs we are performing. A battery-operated clip-light or headband-style light will improve your reading/seeing the music in the dark. Those with larger instruments, such as tubas, sousaphones and percussion, please consider decorating your instrument with a battery-operated string of Christmas lights. This is not required, but adds a festive touch to the band's appearance, if you are able to do it.

Unless directed otherwise, we gather at 5:00pm in the parking lot behind Wheaton's City Hall (NW corner of Wesley St and Wheaton Ave). Step-off is 6pm. Our unit number and pick-up location will be in the General Notes prior to the event. **ALL CADETS, as well as parents and siblings of band members, are encouraged to attend and march with us directly behind the band.** We can also use volunteers to serve in the Patriot Auxiliary. Please email Mrs. Wiesner-Pardee if you would like to serve. She will let you know how you can best be utilized.

### **SOLO AND ENSEMBLE CONTEST (aka SEC)**

The annual Solo and Ensemble Contest is an exciting and much anticipated musical event held on a Saturday, generally in March. **ALL band members, Cadet through Symphonic, are encouraged to participate in the SEC.** Students have the opportunity to prepare solos and/or ensembles of their choice and perform them for a judge who then rates their performance. There is no competition, rather; students strive for their personal best. Judges decisions are final. For more complete information see our [SEC WEBPAGE](#).

## **SUMMER MARCHING BAND**

For the summer marching trimester, the WSHSB is also known as “The Patriots”. The marching trimester is voluntary and is open to current WSHSB members and non-members alike. We need both musicians and non-musicians. Non-musicians serve as the Patriot Auxiliary in a variety of ways.

Experienced, home-schooled musicians, elementary through high school age, are eligible to march with the WSHSB. All must have at least one school year of instruction on their instrument and be at a one-year proficiency level as judged by the director. Demonstration of proficiency may be required for those brand new to the band. Well-disciplined and similarly experienced, non-home-schooled students as well as adult musicians are also encouraged and welcome to join.

There is no fee for Summer Marching, rather a fine for non-returned hats. There are also booster volunteer hours required. See pages 5 and 6 above. For complete marching info see the [Summer Marching](#) webpage.

## **Band Families Help Recruit**

### **WE ARE COUNTING ON YOU**

Everyone needs to make a conscientious effort to help spread the word about the WSHSB. We constantly need to be recruiting to fill in gaps as members leave. Waiting until May to begin recruiting is actually late. Potential new members should have made a decision by May. Some new members may need time to choose an instrument and work with the beginner video, etc. Those who already play an instrument will need sufficient time to prepare for auditions.

Please encourage all home schoolers you know to consider adding music to their educational experience and join the band. There are always new families starting to home school. Other families' children may previously have been too young for band, but are now old enough, and need to be reminded that we exist. **DO NOT ASSUME EVERYONE ALREADY KNOWS ABOUT US!** Tell them to visit the website. Give them Mrs. Borow's email and phone number. We can use new members at every level of proficiency.

Don't forget! If you own a band t-shirt or sweatshirt, be sure to wear it to home school events like conferences, Math Team, debate, field trips, etc.

We also need everyone's help in posting Winter and Spring Concert flyers and Summer Recruiting flyers. If every band family would post at least one flyer we would have 100+ fliers posted. If some are able to do more, that's even better. In addition to libraries, think of other places with community bulletin boards, such as banks, churches, park districts, grocery stores, photo copy places etc., and ask them to post fliers. **We are depending on you** to post as many fliers as possible, wherever you can get permission.

Thank you for your help!