



**Apex High School Band Board  
Minutes from 05-12-2015**

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm

**Band Director's Report – Paul Rowe ([prowe@wcpss.net](mailto:prowe@wcpss.net))**

Marching Band at AHS is voluntary. It is also very physically demanding, and has changed a lot over the years. They march about 70-80 sets in a show. There are approximately 137 marchers, and everyone marches. The drill is written for everyone, so it is a commitment, and it is expected that everyone should be present for band camp and rehearsals.

Band camp is long and rigorous. We learn the bulk of the show during that time. Band Camp lasts 2 weeks. The first week is called “mini camp,” and it is a time for freshmen to learn basic marching, moving, and playing. The returning students come the middle of that week and they all learn the music for the show. The second week is full band camp and runs from 7:00am until 9:00pm with a break for lunch and dinner. By the end of camp, the band will have learned about 1/3 of the show or about 20 pages of drill! After band camp, the band rehearses on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays in the evenings until school starts. Once school starts, rehearsals are right after school until 5:30 or 6:00 Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

If a student does not show up for rehearsals there is no grade deduction. However, if attendance becomes a problem, the student may be asked to leave the band.

The staff who will help the band for band camp and during the season are the same as last year:

Heather Johnson- Musical arranger; front ensemble

Drew Wilson- Drumline writer and arranger

Stephen Kelley- music arranger

William Young- marching

There will be 2 new Visual Ensemble instructors

Color Guard auditions will be held May 26-29

Mr. Rowe will not be band director at AHS next year. He is moving on to Apex Friendship High School to begin the band program there. Mr. Rowe did choose the show, which is called "My Spanish Heart." The musical selections include a song by Chuck Carrea, a Jazz pianist, Spanish Fantasy, a ballad by Josh Groban, and a classic bullfighters musical number.

There are 3 candidates for Mr. Rowe's position who have been interviewed and have directed the Wind Ensemble class. At the time of this meeting, the decision has not been made. Mr. Rowe will be just around the corner if assistance is needed. Combining the 2 bands is not an option. AFHS will start with a Freshmen and Sophomore band.

**Booster President's Report – Terri Piasecki ([bb\\_president@apexhighband.org](mailto:bb_president@apexhighband.org))**

Board members:

Terri Piasecki- President-7<sup>th</sup> year as AHS Marching Band parent

VP 1 Transportation: Mike McLanahan

VP2 Ways and Means- 2 positions

Barry Credle

Sandra Shellenberger

Communications- Dayna Chiccotella

Treasurer- Dick Warner with Christy Wing handling student accounts

Sgt at Arms- Indira Valencia

Secretary- Teresa Bowyer

**Committees:** The band is organized by committees. You can choose to volunteer for one or more committees. Committees include: Social, Uniform, Sewing, props, Visual Ensemble, Pit Crew, and Volunteers for games and competitions. Without the boosters, there would be no marching band. 70 adults are needed to volunteer for each competition!

Benefits of marching band:

- Kids meet upperclassmen before school begins
- Band has hierarchy, so kids learn respect and responsibility and authority  
Marcher answers to section leader who answers to Drum Major who answers to Band Director
- Band is a team effort. Each person in the section is needed for the good of the team. They need people to play  
1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> parts of the music.
  - Dedication- students practice for hours often in the hot sun.
  - Accountability- They are accountable to their section leader to learn the music. They have to pass off their music with the section leader.
  - Communication within their section
  - Perseverance- keep going even when it gets tough. We don't always get a first place, but most years we do.

-They don't really realize they are learning because they are having fun!

Trips- Every other year. Last year was a trip year to Disney, so no trip this year.

Football Games- There are 5-6 games per year. Students are required to be at the games. They perform the show at halftime of most games. The show is approximately 10 minutes long. We need parent volunteers for football games for chaperones, pit, and uniforms.

Sign Up Genius- There will be a master Sign Up Genius with all of the volunteer opportunities for band camp, football games, competitions, and parades.

Typically our band show is more challenging than others we see at competitions. We are often a crowd favorite. Don't expect a step down, expect the excellence to continue.

Section leaders help their sections learn their music and drill. The kids always manage to learn their drill.

Question: Will we be able to use AFHS auditorium? Answer: Yes, as long as we are not the first to perform in it.

Registration: 2 parts

1. Online registration so that all pertinent information is typed in correctly, and data can be sorted in different ways (ex. By instrument, by t-shirt size)
2. Paper packet. There are places for both adults and students to sign.

June 9- Next Booster Meeting- Turn in registration packets and pay initial band fee of \$150. Booster meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month.

\$650 is total band fee

Dinkles (shoes) are extra \$30. New students will be fit for shoes at beginning of band camp

June 30 is deadline to decide for sure. After that point, it is expected that each student will pay \$650.

Instrument rental for school instruments including front ensemble instruments = \$100 per year per instrument. This fee covers the cost of yearly maintenance and repairs.

(Ex. If a student uses a school French Horn in concert band and a school mellophone in marching band, they would owe \$200)

Competitions- The new director will decide, but we will likely have at least one and possibly more local competitions. Often the band will travel to southern VA or Charlotte for competitions.

Double Header- Sometimes we are able to do 2 competitions in one day. There are also

some 2-part competitions where the band plays their show in the morning where they are adjudicated and given a score. In the evening, they play again and compete against the other bands.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President's Report – Barry Credle, Sandra Shellenberger**  
**([bb\\_2ndvp@apexhighband.org](mailto:bb_2ndvp@apexhighband.org))**

**\*Fundraisers- 2 kinds**

1. General Fund- Car Washes, Mattress Sale, pizza cards
2. Student account fundraising- Go-Play-Save books, fruit sale, working at Walnut Creek, PNC Center, or NCSU football games. This money eared goes directly into an individual student's band account.
  - Walnut Creek, parents need to go through alcohol training. There is a minimum guarantee of \$60.
  - NCSU football games= \$8 per hour
  - Mattress sale yielded \$6000 in one day! We sold 49 mattresses.

Some band members have only paid band fees the first year, and have been able to fundraise the rest. Some people never fundraise, only pay, others mostly fundraise.

Money can be donated to another student upon graduation. AFHS students can get the money out of their AHS band account to apply towards band at Friendship.

**Treasurer's Report – Dick Warner ([bb\\_treasurer@apexhighband.org](mailto:bb_treasurer@apexhighband.org))**

\*Budget presented to the boosters. The total budget is approximately \$100,000. 30% of that is transportation.

A vote was taken, and the budget was approved.

**Announcements**

- \*Subscribe to band calendar.**
- \*Sign up for Remind 101 with the band director**
- \*Find us on Facebook at Apexhighschoolband**
- \*Forms due June 9**