

# Apex High School Band Booster Meeting

## May 14, 2014

### Band Kickoff Meeting!

#### Mr. Rowe- Band Director's Report

Mr. Rowe welcomed new parents. The purpose of this meeting is to inform returning parents what is involved this coming season, and give new parents the packet of information. They new families will have time to look over the material and decide if they would like to participate.

This is Mr. Rowe's 14<sup>th</sup> year with Apex High School Band.

Marching Band at AHS is voluntary (unlike some other schools where it is mandatory.) This is an advantage because everyone wants to be there. Many years ago, marching band was very easy. Now, it has exploded, and participation in MB is much more physically demanding. Before a band may have performed 30 sets or pictures in a show, now we do about 75 sets.

Drum Corps bands have taken marching bands to an art form.--Mr. Rowe showed Carolina Crown video clip to give parents an idea of the art form that marching band has become.

Visual Ensemble- Color guard, dance team, rifles. Tryouts now and there are about 22 participating.

In packet- online portion to fill out so that information is typed in correctly by parents and not by a volunteer later.

Please return forms quickly since there is someone other than Mr. Rowe writing the drill this year. Mr. Rowe needs to give him the accurate number ASAP.

Overview of schedule:

- Practice after school from 2:45-5:30 Tues, Wed, and Thursday until the first weekend in November
- Nov and Dec practice 1x/week for parade practice
- Marching Band will perform at 5 home football games and 5 Saturday competitions

Mr. Rowe emphasized **COMMITMENT** to Marching band. If you are part of the marching band, no one can sub in for you if you are not there. You will not be able to miss a competition for a game or other activity.

Physical Demands of Marching Band There is no audition for Marching Band, but keep in mind the following physical demands:

- Must be able to stand for 2+ hours

- Often hot
- -Must be able to carry your instrument during practice.
- -Total miles walked in a season measured on a pedometer = 34 miles

Trip- Walt Disney World 4 days/3 nights

Band will march down Main Street USA @ Magic Kingdom

### **Terri Piasecki- Band Booster President**

Welcomed new parents and noted that all of us were once new band parents. She said that the seasoned and parents are crazy about marching band.

Why?

#### Advantages of participating in Marching Band:

1. 9<sup>th</sup> graders are here at the school one month early and are able to meet upperclassmen
2. Band is set up in a hierarchy with the each section having a section leader. Kids learn how to listen to and deal with leaders.
3. Kids experience teamwork with everyone working toward a common goal. (Goal = winning a Grand Champion Trophy at a competition. We have won at least one every year for the last 5 years)
4. They are part of a huge team (140 members!)
5. It takes dedication and responsibility-they live it, eat it breathe it
6. They are accountable to each other and to their section leader. They have to "pass off" on their music.
7. The kids are having a blast, and don't realize they are learning at the same time!

#### Parent Involvement is Crucial

All Band parents are Band boosters. This can be from any band: marching, concert, jazz, etc.

It takes 40+ parents for each football game and each competition. Parents move the front ensemble instruments (pit crew), chaperone, deal with uniforms, move props to the field, provide refreshments, etc.

#### Common Parent Concerns:

1. What if my child is not a great trumpet player? (etc) Not a problem They do not have to be the best to participate in MB
2. Sports- Kids are involved in a lot of activities today. Discuss individual situations with Mr. Rowe. He will work with you.

## **Financial Information:**

Marching Band Dues this year = \$650. Dues increased for the first time in a few years because we had consistently been over budget.

Other expenses parents need to pay  
-\$30 for Dinkles (shoes) one time cost

-Instrument Rental= \$100 for each school instrument used. Ex. If a student marches Mellophone and plays a school French horn in class, they would owe \$200 for the year. This includes front ensemble instruments. The fee helps to cover the cost of repair and maintenance over the summer.

## **Fundraising**

Opportunities throughout the year

1. Papa Murphey's Cards available tonight (general fund)
2. Go-Play-Save coupon books- profits go into student account
3. Kroger cards- 5% of sales go into student account
4. Fruit Sales- student accounts
5. Concessions at Walnut Creek or PNC Center/ Usher NCSU football games- \$8/hr goes into student account

## **Important Dates**

June 10- 6:30pm- Orientation Night-Cafeteria- Paper forms and First payment of \$150 is due. (you have the option to withdraw your student until 6/30/14) Go to [www.apexhighband.org](http://www.apexhighband.org) to register online first. It is a secure website. You will need medical insurance information and date of the student's last tetanus shot.

May 27-29 Drum line auditions

May 30-7pm Pops Concert with Band, Chorus, and Orchestra at Koka Booth Amphitheater.

## **Budget Approval**

Mr. Maclanahan moved to approve budget for 2014-2015 school year  
Cathy Wood seconded. All were in favor. Budget approved.