

BENTONVILLE PRIDE

BENTONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

INFORMATION FOR NEW PRIDE MEMBERS AND PARENTS THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

The Bentonville Band program is dedicated to the teaching of music throughout many different activities. Although music is the main emphasis of the program we also teach about discipline, organization, cooperation and many other life skills. The band program is a great place to grow whether it is physically, musically or intellectually. The opportunities provided for each individual student in the Bentonville Instrumental Music Program are focused on offering experiences that will result in finding joy and excitement in the creative and aesthetic environment of music. Through the various genre of music performance groups and classes offered by our music department, it is our hope that each student will find music to be a personal experience, and that he/she will desire to have music as a part of their lives forever.

E-NEWS

- Go to www.bentonvillepride.com. At the bottom of the home page, you can sign up for weekly eNews updates. This is very important weekly information!

CHARMS accounts

- CHARMS is a web-based program which is used to keep track of
 - School owned musical instruments
 - School owned uniforms
 - Band and Pride fees including but not limited to trip costs, user rental fees, all-region and all-state fees, solo and ensemble fees, replacement costs for uniforms items
 - Fundraising costs and profits
 - Make payments via PayPal
- Each band student has a CHARMS account. It can be accessed through the CHARMS website: www.charmsoffice.com using their 9-digit school ID number and the code "bentonhsband".
- Each child's information and the parents' information is reviewed annually during Pride camp and updated as needed throughout the school year.
- Junior high CHARMS accounts are automatically transferred to the high school account for all students becoming part of the high school band program.

PRIDE AGREEMENT

- The PRIDE agreement is a contract that references the rehearsal schedule, football games, competitions, uniform requirements and costs, cost of participating in the band and other important information. This has been distributed to your child.
- Each student AND parent is required to sign the contract. It is then to be returned to the band director.
- The contract is for ALL PRIDE members.

PRIDE CAMP (Band Camp)

- The 2015 Full Pride Camp (winds, percussion and color guard) begins on Monday, July 27. This is a very important time for Pride, they will be learning a lot. Schedules are posted on the Pride website www.bentonvillepride.com.
- Water and sunscreen are needed EVERY single day of band camp.
- Marching band members are asked to wear a white t-shirt, shorts and good, comfortable lace-up shoes. Hats and sunglasses are also recommended and encouraged. Marching band members will receive their “bummers” on the first day of camp. These are Home Depot/Lowes canvas tool aprons. They are used to hold water bottles, coordinate sheets, a pencil and poker chips (used to mark spots on the field.) Color guard will be in black t-shirts and shorts. Footwear will be based on work being done that day and will be shared with the guard by the Guard Instructor(s).
- Arrival time should be at least 15-30 minutes before they take the field. They should have their sunscreen on when they arrive so this time can be used to use the bathroom, making sure they have their coordinate sheets, bumper and poker chips. They also have to have their instruments and be on field or starting location at start time.
- The practice field aka “The Skillet” is the black-topped parking lot located behind the South building. The heat coming off the surface is only one reason it is called the skillet. Keep this in mind when deciding how to dress.
- It is also a good idea to spend some time outside prior to band camp so it isn’t quite as draining during that first day.
- The band directors are very aware of what it takes to practice on the Skillet. Most often outdoor practice is done in the morning when the outdoor temperatures are at their coolest. Band members are asked to take water breaks from their water bottle kept in their bummers EVERY time they are at attention so they stay hydrated.
- Tents are used to give shade when needed. Coolers with wet, cold washcloths are also made available each day to help keep the children cool.
- Daily they will need: their instrument, a large bottle water/jug of water (remember to put name on jug), their bumper, sack lunch (no soft drinks), good sunscreen, and daily transportation to and from (they cannot be late).
- Can’t stress enough to limit or postpone other activities during camp. The students will be exhausted, sore, and cranky and will need their rest. Hopefully, they will also be excited about the show and want to share everything about it with you.
- Have dentist appointments, doctor checkups, and school organized before season starts. Your student will have minimal time for these things until season is over.
- Have tune-ups and repairs of your instruments done during the summer.
- Marching position tryouts happen shortly after camp starts. Some students will share a spot making them a “Understudy” where they alternate performances until a time that one or the other students “wins” the spot through continued marching and playing evaluations.
- Volunteers are needed each day in many areas. See the Ways to Volunteer and How to Sign Up section for details.

PRIDE REHEARSALS

- Tuesday nights are usually the best time to watch. The stadium opens up to spectators at 8:30 pm. Please **do not** enter the stadium until this time. We need to respect director's time with the kids. It will help you identify where your students is on the field during performances. It lets your student know how much you care and support them. You can meet other parents, and you can learn a lot by listening to announcements given at the end of practice.
- Please be quiet and not distracting. The directors need the students' attention at this time.
- Please do not sit near the directors at this time.

MARCHING BAND CLOTHING & GEAR

- 2015-2016 Pride Marching band Uniform is primarily provided by the school.
 - Full marching uniform, jacket & bottom aka as bibs/bibbers
 - Shako
- Required items, if needed, to be purchased by the student prior to the first home football game.
 - Shoes aka dinkles
- Required items to be purchased by the student prior to the first home football game. These items are NOT offered by the Band program or the Boosters so they can be purchased at your favorite store:
 - Black socks (must be at least crew length with NO advertising/logos visible)
 - Marching band students will need sliders and possibly insulated underwear to wear under their uniform. Athletic shorts should be worn over the sliders at any time when bibs are not worn. T-shirts are NOT sufficient cover-ups!
- Required items to be purchased by the student prior to TIGER Pride event. These items are offered by the Band program and are covered in the payment of your fees:
 - Bentonville Pride "B" T-shirt (they wear under uniform)
 - Ball cap
 - Show shirt
 - Gloves (gray and white)

Replacement gloves, t-shirts and ball caps are the responsibility of the student. Payment can be made by cash or a charge can be added to the student's CHARMS account. Shoes from a prior year can be worn IF they still fit and are in good shape and are the correct model of Dinkles.

- Shoes are the student's responsibility to store between performances and must be brought to all performances.
- Extra items such as gloves (\$4 pair) and ball cap (\$10) can be purchased before events in band room.
- You must have these items for each performance.
- The **2015-2016 Color Guard Uniform** cost is paid in total by the color guard band student. The fees related to the performance uniform and practice uniform will be charged through the CHARMS account.
 - Measurements for the uniform will be taken In May.
 - List of required items will be supplied to students in May.
- Fundraisers are available to help fund the payment of all uniform and trip costs.

CONCERT BAND CLOTHING & GEAR:

- Men: Black pants (no jeans), long-sleeved black dress shirt, black socks (at least crew length) and black shoes (no athletic shoes)
- Ladies: Black dress (remember you will be seated on a stage so make sure the dress length is appropriate) OR black pants, black blouse and black shoes.
- Letter Jackets are available through a vendor that has been established with the Band. While these jackets are optional they are encouraged. More information will be available at a later date for purchase procedures.

LOCAL COMPETITIONS (Owasso, OK and Broken Arrow, OK)

- Students may want to purchase a patch and pin for the event for their Pride Jacket's.
- Event t-shirts are available at each competition for sale.
- Bring a camera, no flash. Professional pictures will be available, but they can get expensive.
- You will spend hours in a chair, bring ibuprofen. You may also want to bring a stadium cushion.
- Contests are outside, dress in layers. The Pride shirt or show shirt is what most parents wear to the competitions. Remember, these are available at Band Parent meetings for sale.
- Students will need pocket money for drinks, snacks and souvenirs.
- There are times at every event that you can see your child. However, much of the time, students will not be able to call you, text you, or visit with you because they are busy.
- On purchasing tickets for events, there are usually the options of all day ticket pricing or preliminary tickets and finals tickets. Every event is different. It really doesn't matter where your tickets are as there are usually Pride parents and friends very close by. You will need cash for these tickets, some of the events you cannot use credit or debit card.
- Students may bring snacks for the bus trip to and from the competitions. Only water is allowed before performance(s) so water will be supplied for the bus trip to the competition.
- Chaperones are needed for all competitions. These chaperones may be asked to help prepare the band for performance so please let the VP Volunteers know if you cannot physically help prepare the band.
- Chaperone slots are available to all parents. This is a great way to get to know the kids. Veteran chaperones will be given first choice to accompany the band to competitions.
- Parents are needed to help get water to the band after warm-ups and before performance, unload the trailer, set up tents for the color guard to finish dressing, get plumes into shakos and set up and serve food to the band members. These parents may be chaperones or may be those who travel to competitions separately. Find a Band Booster board member to see how you can help out.
- The proper audience etiquette for ALL contests is to be quiet (no talking) during each and every band performance. There is no movement during performances so if you leave your seat during a break, you will not be allowed back to your seat until the next break.
- Remember, you do not know who is sitting around you so keep negative remarks and criticism to yourself. You wouldn't want them talking about the PRIDE that way, would you? You are considered a representative of the PRIDE band and the BHS band program. Please make sure your behavior reflects favorably on both programs.

OUT OF STATE COMPETITIONS (St. Louis Bands of America (BOA) Super Regional, Indianapolis BOA Grand Nationals)

- Due to Copyright Restrictions, there is NO videotaping at contest but DVD's may be purchased. The DVDs are mailed to your house and can take 12-14 weeks to get to you.
- They will check your bags at check in.
- Students may want to purchase a patch and pin for the event for their Pride Jackets.
- Event T-shirts are available at each competition for sale.
- Bring a Camera. Professional pictures will be available, but they can get expensive. Pictures can only be taken from the stands, not on the field. There is NO FLASH allowed when taking pictures.
- Chaperones are needed for both of these competitions. Experienced chaperones (those parents who have chaperoned before and who are well-known to the children) will be requested to accompany the band on BOA events. The cost of their trip will be covered in total.
- Chaperone duties for the BOA trips include all regular duties plus they are expected to eat in shifts during meals so that the kids are under a watchful eye at all times; provide adult supervision on the hotel floors where the kids are housed and help the band prepare for their performance(s) in any way needed including but not limited to band feeds, tent set-up, clean-up, uniform needs and field pit crew.
- If planning on attending any BOA events it is highly recommended to make your hotel reservations early if you want to stay near the event. You can always cancel later if you need to, but you might not be able to get a room if you wait too long. These are large inside stadiums. Also, be prepared to share hotels with other bands. The hotels close to the stadiums which event is held will be very busy. You can make reservations through the BOA website for hotels (www.musicforall.org) or you can make reservations on your own.
- The St. Louis Super Regional is held at the Edward Jones Dome in St. Louis.
- Grand Nationals is held at the Lucas Oil stadium in Indianapolis.
- Tickets for the Super Regional Finals and Grand Nationals can be pre purchased directly from Bands of America (BOA). Orders have to be taken very early for these events for the group purchase and early bird rate. There are separate tickets for preliminaries, semifinals and finals. We will find out when we perform prior so you can decide what you want to attend concerning prelims. Finals are the only tickets that you might want to buy tickets beforehand. The higher up you sit, the better the view of all the bands. You can always buy your tickets for both of these events when you arrive.
- There are usually Pride parents and friends close by wherever your tickets are. Prices for tickets are located on BOA website (www.musicforall.org).

HELPFUL TIPS

- Parents will be asked to provide cases of water for the Pride for all contests. We want them to stay hydrated. So we ask that parents pick up a few cases of waters, and bring to the band room. It will be used for all away trips we go on. Usually bringing them to a band parent meeting would be a great drop off time.
- Attend Band Parent Meeting as scheduled during the school year and listed in the eNews, held in the band room at the high school. You will get an update from directors and information about upcoming events, fundraisers and etc.
- If you are a Wal-Mart associate, plan on volunteering and asking your friends to volunteer. The Band Booster organization is a 501©3 charitable organization. As a result, all yours spent volunteering can be submitted for VAP (Volunteerism Always Pays) reimbursement. If you work

for a different company, see if there is a matching program for the hours you work or donations you make.

- There will be a pregame performance and a half-time performance that the Pride will perform at home games. For away games, band member space and timing will determine when the Pride will play and who will play.
- Volunteer at events: this is a great way to meet other parents and learn about things. See separate section for all of the volunteer activities available to you.
- There is a Pride Banquet in the spring of each year; each Pride student will get a ticket to the banquet. This is a family event to honor the band participants' accomplishments for the past year. Date, dress code, time and location will be determined closer to event, usually February - April. Invitations will be sent out in April.
- Tryouts for All State and All District Bands are right at the end of Pride Season. Make room for practice time and get extra private lessons if needed. Your kid's band director can give you a list of instructors.
- Private lessons are a huge plus and for some a must for your student to compete at this level. List of instructors is available from your band director.

PAYMENT PLAN FOR PRIDE

- A payment plan for Pride is provided in the PRIDE agreement. The PRIDE agreement is distributed in May. The amounts are based on actual costs of services provide (i.e. Travel, Hotel, Meals, Uniform items, etc.)
- Some parents pay the account in full - if you are planning on doing that, the earlier the better.
- The parent organization, BBB, makes fundraisers available to all band members. You are able to choose which fundraiser to participate in. For these student driven fundraisers, the greatest amount of profit will be credited to the student account.
- Profit is defined as selling price less cost; cost will include any shipping and taxes, if applicable.
- All fundraisers except DCI and the home-side concession stand monies exist to help band students meet their financial obligations. The highest percentage of profits is returned to each child's account for each fundraiser.
- All monies raised through DCI and the home-side concession stand at Tiger stadium and its use is governed by the charter of the Bentonville Band Boosters charter as a non-profit 501c3 organization. The primary uses of these monies is to fund scholarships for music education during and after high school; give financial support to the Bentonville band program in grades 6th through 12th and to be positive boosters of the band program within the Bentonville and national band communities.

WAYS TO VOLUNTEER FOR PRIDE & HOW TO SIGN-UP

- Work concessions at Tiger Stadium! The concession stand is open Monday, Thursday and Friday nights during football season. This is a MAJOR revenue source for the band program. This year the stand will be manned primarily by sections so you can get to know other parents in your section!!
- Work events that are major fundraisers for the PRIDE such as the Drum Corp, Inc. (DCI) show – NWA Music on the Move that is held in July.
- Helping to get the band dressed before football games. Making sure that the uniforms are stored correctly after football games.
- Wash Uniforms (After all games and competitions.) This takes a lot of people! AND, it is so important.

- Flag Making – pinning, cutting, ironing and sewing, maybe even helping to get them taped to the poles
- Feeding the band during PRIDE band camp, before football games, during competitions; any time the band needs to eat.
- Cleaning up after the band eats before football games, before and during competitions; any time the band eats.
- Operations Crew (help get equipment on/off the field, repairs, loading/unloading the truck, etc.)
- Chaperone for competitions, football games, all-region tryouts and clinics and other events as determined by the Band Director.
- Help out at the ASBOA Regional Concert Assessment held in late Spring.

There are more areas where you can help out. Look for sign-up sheets through CHARMS and during the Boosters General meetings held in May and August. Please let us know YOUR SKILLS and YOUR INTERESTS!! Without band parents there would be no band ...