

Dear Band Parents -

Though we are just bidding one school year good bye, it is exciting to be looking forward to another band season beginning in August! As I write this, I am told that the Marching Band will be almost 300 strong again next year. WOW!!

My name is Traci Herbell and I have the privilege to be your BBHHS Band Booster President again this year. I have a son who will be a sophomore and a daughter who is a Brecksville Band alumnus. Band has been an enjoyable part of our lives for several years as I hope it will be for you!

All band parents are automatically members of the Boosters - for free! The Boosters support the band, during both marching and indoor concert season, in many, many ways. The more I work behind the scenes, the more I am amazed by the generous efforts of our volunteer parents who make it happen. In the past, the Boosters have:

- Raised the funds to replace the marching band uniforms - a project amounting to over \$100,000 of expense.
- Provided chaperones to BOTH home and away events. For home and away games, Boosters parents are badly needed to help move equipment to and from the marching (football!) field. Parents are assigned to ride buses for all away games.
- Supplied funds to purchase a significant amount of the band instruments including percussion and large brass instruments. We also help to purchase the music that is performed.
- Obtain, maintain and track all uniforms for both marching and indoor concert season - a MAJOR undertaking! We need hemmers for pants and general volunteers for uniform fitting nights.
- Hosted special events for visiting musical VIP's such as the Ohio State University Symphonic Band and the BGSU Falcon Marching Band.
- Shared in the cost of purchasing the pit cover for the auditorium stage, providing more flexibility for performances.
- AND, last but not least, chaperoned the students during the Disney trip at Spring Break.

So, what do we need from you? Simply, your time and talents. Please come to the Band Booster meetings (first Tuesday of each month) to find out how you can help. We are still looking for parents to fill some key positions on our committees, especially with selling ads for our fall program which adds a substantial amount of funds to our coffers. The upcoming year is going to be especially challenging as we work together with Mr. Wyse and the band staff to hold down our costs while maintaining the same excellent level of quality our band is known for.

While we have reduced our potential expenses for the year, we still need to focus on our fundraising efforts. Our popular Citrus Sale and the annual pancake breakfast will take place late in the fall with other fundraising still in the planning stages. With the Citrus

Sale, students have half of their net profits credited to a "student account". The funds in the student account can be used to pay band fees and trip expenses down the road.

I hope that you and your child will find the band experience as rewarding as many of us have. Both my children have been able to balance music, academics, and athletics thanks to the flexibility of our music staff at the high school. Our band students participate in almost every sport and participate in every club. Most band students also call the band room their second home where they will always find a friendly face, a shoulder to cry on, or just a place to hang before going home. The band can truly become part of your family if you allow it.

I extend my warmest welcome to all new families and all returning families. You can call me at 440-526-3934 or email me at tradintraci@sbcglobal.net if you ever need anything related to band. I know that band can be overwhelming at first, especially since we jump right into band camp. So please remember that there are many of us who will gladly guide you along!

Traci Herbell
BBHHS Band Booster President